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THE

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January to March, 1905.

LONDON:
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INDEX TO VOL. XLVIII.

THREE MONTHS ENDING MARCH, 1905.

	Page
"Abaca" (Manila hemp) industry in the Philippines	178
Abyssinia. *See Africa.*	
Acetic acid for certain purposes, exemption from duty, in Netherlands ...	506
Acetylene, regulations relating to, in Austria-Hungary	471
Adulteration of Food Act, 1901, in Natal, regulations under	174, 597
Aerated waters, opening for, in Guatemala	59
Africa:	
Abyssinia:	
Bank, State, proposed establishment of	569
Boran country, trade of	569–70
Report on the Survey of the Proposed Frontier between British East Africa and Abyssinia. *Review*	528
British Central Africa Protectorate: Tariff: Liquor Ordinance, 1904	358
British East Africa Protectorate:	
Native crops	520–21
Report for the Year 1903–4. *Review*	188
„ on the possibilities of cotton growing. *Review* ...	574
„ „ Survey of the Proposed Frontier between British East Africa and Abyssinia. *Review*	528
Sericulture	231
Steamship service between Mombasa and Marseilles	322
Tariff: Agricultural implements, importation of	407
Trade in 1903–04	234–5
Congo Free State: Cotton cultivation	566
Egypt:	
Alexandria: Proposed port improvement	77
Cotton growing	111
Electric lighting materials: Opening for	5
Port, new, on Red Sea	77–8, 226
Tariff:	
Despatch of merchandise to Cairo in bond	119
Valuation tariff for:	
Coal and coke	119–20, 269
Exports of Egyptian produce	120
Metals	317
Oils, colours, &c.	506
Pepper, black	269
Sugars	269
Wharfage dues, new	269
Tenders:	
Grain sacks	341–2
Police stores	103
French Africa. *See France.*	
Gambia: Revised tariff	502–03
German Africa. *See Germany.*	

Digitized by Google

Africa (*continued*): Page
Gold Coast:
Tariff:
New customs tariff (West of the Volta) 313–16
Spirits, new duties on 26–7
Wine and beer licences 72
Traffic regulations on the river Volta 610
Wharfage dues reduced 610
Lagos: Railway material, tenders for 200
Morocco:
Opening for:
Building materials 252
Export trade in goat skins 251–2
Semolina 252
Tangier and district, trade of 377-8
Nigeria, Southern: Tariff: Prohibition of exportation of cotton seed 599
Portuguese Africa. *See Portugal.*
Somaliland Protectorate:
Port of Zaila 226
Tariff: Goods exported from Berbera and Bulhar, revised duties on 72
Trade in 1903-04 280–81
South Africa:
Cape Colony:
Cape Town industrial exhibition, closing of 253
Diamonds, export of, in 1904 372
Fisheries Law, proposed amendment of 375
Foreign competition with British goods 54
Opening for:
Atmospheric turbine pumps 246
Cranes, electric 533–4
Drainage material 297, 438
Electric lighting and power plant 438, 533
Harbour Works 533–4
Pumping plant and pipes 54
Steam rollers 488
Waterworks 102, 149, 439
Proposed Department of Agriculture, Colonial Industries, and Technical Instruction 34–5
Railway rate for imported live stock sent to the Transvaal for slaughter purposes 77
Reduced railway rates on goods "in transit" to Western Transvaal 555
Table Bay:
Dock dues, addition to 30
Pilotage, compulsory 77
Tariff:
Angora rams and ewes, export duty on 72
Bounty-fed sugar, special import duties 544
Postal packages: rebate of duties 218
Tenders:
Blankets and sleeping mats 295–6
Castor oil 297
Hardware 488
Leather mail bags 296–7
Sleepers, hardwood 438
Timber 297, 438
Uniforms, &c., for police 533
Trade statistics 157–8, 497-8, 615
Chambers of Commerce of South Africa, Congress of... ... 568
Natal:
Asbestos deposits; samples on view at 73, Basinghall-street, E.C. 276
Coal output and export in 1904 463

Digitized by Google

Africa (*continued*): Page
South Africa (*continued*):
Natal (*continued*):
Durban:
Increased depth of water 555
New rates for forwarding goods 610
Gold production, bounty on 176
Import trade: European and United States competition with the United Kingdom 537-8
Opening for:
Electric power plant 149
Electric tramway plant 54, 149
Railway material 534
Port Natal: Amended port and harbour regulations ... 226
Tariff:
Adulteration of Food Act, 1901, regulations under ... 174, 597
Angora rams and ewes, export duty on 174
Sugar, bounty-fed, special duties on importation of ... 406-07
Tenders:
Building materials 392
Cast-iron pipes, &c. 392
Trade in 1904 ... ... 456-8, 537-8
Orange River Colony:
Industrial Commission, report of 595-6
Irrigation Commission 278
Opening for:
Pumping plant 298
Railway material 341
Tariff: Import permits for certain articles no longer required 219
Trade statistics 69, 594
Railway rates from Coast Ports to Johannesburg, proposed reductions 610
Rhodesia, Southern: Tariff: Rebate of duty on goods exported 268
Tariff: Customs decisions 118
Transvaal:
Gold production in 1904 276
Industrial products, output of 422-3
Irrigation Commission 278
Mineral production in 1903-04 422
Tariff: Prohibition of importation of cattle *via* Lourenço Marques 72
Tenders:
Electric arc lamps and lanterns 439
" lighting materials 488-9
" tramway materials 488-9
Switchboards, &c. 581-2
Tender Board regulations of the Central South African Railways 149
Trade statistics 110, 303-4, 493-500
Uganda Protectorate:
Galvanised wrought-iron piping and fittings, tenders for ... 246
Tariff, agricultural implements, importation of 407
Agricultural conference, West Indian, for 1905 327
" exhibitions at Bordeaux, Lyons, and Rouen 589
" implements and machinery, opening for, in Italy ... 153
" " " " Ottoman Empire ... 57
" " " " Servia ... 587
" " " " Sweden ... 394
" " imported free of duty into British East Africa and Uganda Protectorates 407
Agricultural labourers in the United Kingdom, report on wages, earnings, and conditions of employment. *Review* 383

Digitized by Google

Page
Agricultural machinery, International Congress at Liége 590
" produce, imports into United Kingdom...42–3, 88, 137, 186, 238, 285, 331, 381, 430, 475, 525, 572, 619
" returns (produce of crops) for United Kingdom in 1904. *Review* 528
Agricultural statistics of Ireland, 1904. *Review* 336
" " of United States of America in 1904 328
Agriculture, Colonial Industries, and Technical Instruction, proposed Department of, in Cape Colony... 34–5
Agriculture, measures for development of, in Brazil 279
Alaska. *See United States of America.*
Alcohol, denatured, freed from taxation in Peru 40
" " regulations modified in Peru 471
" methylic, denaturation of, in France 318
" used for industrial purposes in Belgium 427
Alcohols and spirits, neutral, drawback allowed on exportation from Spain 546
Alcoholic beverages, 1903. *Review* 240
Algeria. *See France.*
Alien immigration into United Kingdom 90, 332, 526
Amber deposit in San Domingo 617
Anchors, opening for, in Argentina 401
Angora rams and ewes, export duty on, in Cape Colony 72
" " " " " Natal 174
Aniline dye manufacturers, names of, wanted in United States of America 302
Apple trade of Canada 581
Aqueduct construction, tenders for, in Italy 56, 301
Argentine Republic:
British trade 454–5
Cotton cultivation in Tucuman 279
Exports in 1904 472
Facility of transfer of vessels to Argentine register 463
Freight rates for meat and butter to the United Kingdom ... 611
Grain harvest in 1904 426
Opening for:
Anchors 401
Cables 401
Cranes, hydraulic 401
Disinfecting apparatus 401
Electric accumulator 401
Launches, steam and petroleum, machinery for 401
Machinery 302
Sanitary fittings 155
Weighing machines, automatic 401
Railway statistics 419–20
Steamship line between Buenos Aires and Austria-Hungary ... 227
Tariff:
Medicines, patent, regulations regarding tax on 28
Valuation tariff, new 273, 416–18, 512–13
Tenders:
Beacons 443
Buoys 443
Army contracts in United Kingdom, notice to tenderers 196–7
Asbestos deposits in Natal; samples on view at 73, Basinghall-street, E.C. 276
" deposits, new, in Canada 516
Australian Commonwealth:
Gold production in 1904 421–2
Mica in Central Australia 557
New South Wales:
Iron works, proposed establishment of 517
Railway statistics 514
Wheat harvest 278
Wool, facilities for shipping 555

Digitized by Google

Australian Commonwealth (*continued*): Page
Opening for:
Baths and fittings 437
Dining-room tables and chairs 148
Heating apparatus 148–9
Incubators and brooders 148
Queensland:
Freight rates on Government railways 274
Pearl-shell and beche-de-mer fisheries in 1903 468
Rails and fishplates, tenders for 53
Sea-carriage of Goods Act, 1904 368–9
South Australia:
Cotton cultivation 520
Marine survey fees 274
Pilotage exemption 274
Railway materials, tenders for 294–5
Tariff:
Bedsteads, minor articles for, importation of 268
Catalogues and advertising matter, duty on... 461
Cocoanut oil, solidified, Customs duty on 268
Customs decisions 266–8, 356, 596
Drawbacks 356–7
Lager beer, essence of, importation prohibited 597
Mineral oils and spirits, regulation affecting importation of ... 218
Rice-meal, drawback regulations 70
Vehicles, certain articles for, free importation of 461
Tasmania:
Mineral production 371–2
Poultry, depot for export of, to United Kingdom and South Africa 129
Victoria: Wharfage charges at Ports, revised scale of 369
Western Australia: New Navigation Act 514
Austria-Hungary:
Automobiles and motor boats, international exhibition 401–02
Calcium carbide and acetylene regulations 471
Cattle trade in 1904... 521
Hungarian industry, development of 134–5
Issue of new ten kronen notes 470
Opening for:
Railway construction 9
Silk filatures, lease of 398
Steamers 251
Textile machinery 346
Silk industry of Hungary 402-04
Steamship line between Fiume and Buenos Aires 227
Subsidised steamship line to Central and South America 30
Tariff: Commercial treaties with Russia, Belgium and Servia denounced 367
Tenders:
Bridge construction 57
Building construction 57
Coal 442
Electric lighting 57
Paper 301
Paving works... 57
Tramway construction 57
Waterworks 57
Trieste:
British trade 590
Tobacco, Virginia. direct importation of 616
Automobile and cycle exhibition in Switzerland 536
„ and sports exhibition, international, in Paris, in 1907 ... 156
„ industry in France 463
Automobiles and motor boats, international exhibition of, in Austria-Hungary 401-02
Automobiles, opening for, in Italy 345

Digitized by Google

Page
Balata industry in British Guiana 129
Baltimore. *See United States of America.*
Bananas, railway rates for, in Jamaica 123
Bank, State, proposed establishment of, in Abyssinia 569
Bankruptcy statistics, England and Wales 138-9, 383-4, 476-7
Barbados. *See British West Indies.*
Baths and fittings, opening for, in Australian Commonwealth... ... 437
Bauxite brick, process for manufacture of, in United States of America... 127
Beacons, tenders for, in Argentina 443
Bedsteads, minor articles for, Customs regulations respecting importation into Australia 268
Beer and wine licences in Gold Coast 72
Belgium:
Alcohol used for industrial purposes 427
Antwerp: Shipping statistics... 515
Artificial silk 561
Belgian-Chinese Chamber of Commerce, institution of, in Brussels 85
British goods, list of possible buyers of... 205
Coffee, regulation as to sale of 38
Hainault: Coal and iron production 127
Liége Exhibition, 1905 589-90
International Congress of Chambers of Commerce, &c. ... 590
" " on agricultural machinery 590
Steamship communication with the Far East 78
" sailings, increased, from Antwerp to Quebec and Montreal 419
" service between Ghent and Dublin and Belfast... ... 515
Tariff:
Commercial relations with Greece 506
" treaty with Austria-Hungary denounced ... 367
Modifications 73
Tenders:
Bridge construction 104, 396-7
Electric cranes 249, 491
" lighting plant 343
Fuel 583
Heating apparatus 151-2
Leather 105
Paving work 440, 491
Railway construction and plant ... 104, 201, 298, 343, 397, 491, 583
Railway stores 7
Ventilating apparatus 151-2
Viaduct, metallic 583
Bengal. *See British India.*
Benzine, tenders for, in Roumania 107
Bicycles and accessories, opening for, in Japan 155-6
Bitumen in Syria 612-13
Blankets and sleeping mats, tenders for, in Cape Colony 295-6
Blood stock, opening for, in Brazil 253
"Bloomer," Customs regulations concerning importation into Mauritius 317
Board of Agriculture, Journal of. *Review* 188, 574
Boiler Explosions Act, enquiries under 420, 612
Boilers, engine, duty on, in Roumania 76
Boll weevil commission of Texas, report of 36
Boots and shoes, opening for, in British West Indies 149-50
Bounties. (*See also Subsidies*):
Ecuador: Rubber trees, bounty for 467
Natal: Gold production, bounty on 176
Brass chandeliers, tenders for, in Spain 8
" wire, tenders for, in Roumania 398-9
Brazil:
Agriculture, measures for development of 279
British trade 11
Budget expenditure for 1905 281-2
Coal mines, measures for development of 373

Digitized by Google

Brazil (*continued*): Page
Coffee exports in 1904 521
Opening for:
Blood stock 253
Building materials 494
Dredging works... 253
Hydro-electric plant 155
Plants and seeds 253
Railway construction and plant 59, 204, 253, 346
Railway material 10, 155
River improvement works 253
Waterworks 253
Sericulture, measures for development of 279
Tariff: Freedom of commerce between the States of the Union. Date of operation of Law 548
Tenders:
Railway stores 109
Rolling stock 10, 108
Trade, export, first nine months of 1904 282
Trade marks, registration of 379
Bridge construction, opening for, in Chile 204
" " " Denmark 440
" " tenders for, in Austria-Hungary 57
" " " Belgium 104, 396–7
" " " Portugal 584
" " " Switzerland 105
Bridge material, tenders for, in Netherlands 6–7
Bridges, deck, tenders for, in British India... 101
Bridgework, tenders for, in British India 3, 100-01
British Central Africa Protectorates. *See Africa.*
British East Africa Protectorate. *See Africa.*
British Guiana:
Balata industry 129
Molascuit industry 464–5
New Customs tariff 598
Rice growing experiments: imported varieties superior 179–80
Trade in 1903–04 181–2
British Honduras: Steamship service with United States of America ... 556
British India:
Bengal:
Estimated winter rice crop 129
Trade with Thibet 567–8
Cotton cake, Indian, feeding experiments with 231
" goods produced in British Indian mills, tariff valuations for excise duty 177–8
" industry 206–8
" spinning and weaving returns 33, 128, 326, 500
Opening for:
Irrigation works 293
Motor cars 437
Pier works at Bombay 244
Tramway, steam, concession 390
Petroleum industry in Burma 323–4
Shan States, report on conditions and progress in 1903–04 ... 158–9
Steel works, establishment of, at Barrakar 421
Tariff:
Cotton goods produced in British Indian mills, tariff valuations for excise duty 177–8
Revised tariff valuations 169–73, 216–17, 259–61, 306–12
Sugar certificates 502
Tariff amendments 353–4
Tenders:
Bridges, deck 101
Bridgework 3, 100
Cement 3

Digitized by Google

	Page
British India (*continued*):	
Tenders (*continued*):	
Deck spans	485
Lamps	101
Leather belting	101
Paints, &c.	339
Railway material and stores ...	3–4, 51–3, 100–01, 197–8, 293–4, 389–90, 485–6, 531–2, 580
Rolling stock	52–3
Sleepers, creosoted pine	436
Spans	485
Wagons, ballast	579
Wrought iron material	580
British possessions and foreign countries, trade of ...	... 67–8, 304–5, 592–3
British trade abroad:	
Argentina	454–5
Austria	590
Austrian competition	590
Brazil	11
Cape Colony	54
Corea	210
Guatemala	60
Italy, South	347–8
Mexico	11–12
Peru	205
Servia	590–91
British West Indies:	
Agricultural Conference, 1905	327
Barbados: Tariff: Facilities granted for importation of rifles, &c., in certain cases	599
Boots and shoes, opening for	149–50
Grenada: Tariff:	
New Customs tariff	503–04
Volatile petroleum regulations	316–17
Jamaica:	
Alligator Pond to be closed as port of entry...	514
Bananas, railway rates for	123
Cassava industry	130
Cotton industry...	130
Hard wood industry	130
Rice industry	130
Tariff:	
Rum, export duty on	407–08
„ Protection Law	407–08
Tea industry	130
Tobacco samples on view at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C. ...	465
Leeward Islands:	
Cotton industry	614
Mineral products	612
Trade in 1903	616
Montserrat: Amended Customs tariff	504–05
St. Christopher-Nevis: Tariff:	
Free importation of certain articles	505
„ „ petroleum for oil engines	505
Sugar and rum, continuation of duties	545
Trinidad and Tobago:	
Cement factory, suggested establishment of	615
Mineral resources	228
Tariff: Revised export duties in aid of immigration	220
Trade statistics, 1903-04	133
Bronze wire, tenders for, in Norway	394
Budget expenditure of Brazil for 1905	281–2

Digitized by Google

Page
Builders' materials, opening for, in Brazil 494
" " French India 492
" " Guatemala 59
" " Morocco 252
Building construction, tenders for, in Austria-Hungary 57
" exhibition at St. Petersburg 495
" materials, tenders for, in Natal 392
Bulgaria:
Opening for:
Harbour works... 442
Rolling stock 442
Salt 586
Tenders for waterworks 536
Bulletin of the Imperial Institute, Vol. II. No. 4. *See Supplement to "Board of Trade Journal" of 5th January.*
Bunting, tenders for, in Italy 492–3
Buoys, light, opening for, in Spain 299
" opening for, in Argentina 443
" " Mozambique 441
Butter, freight rates from Argentina to the United Kingdom 611
" trade of Russia: increased export to Germany 562–3

Cables, opening for, in Argentina 401
Calcium carbide, regulations relating to, in Austria-Hungary 471
California. *See United States of America.*
Cameroons. *See Germany.*
Canada:
Apple trade 581
Asbestos deposits, new 516
Cement industry, establishment of 568
Enquiries relating to Canadian trade ... 4–5, 53, 101–02, 147–8, 198–9, 244–5, 294, 340–41, 390–91, 437, 486–7, 532, 581
Opening for:
Commercial motors 532–3
Water power plant 532
Pig-iron production in 1904 516
Quebec: New mineral district 32
Steamship service, increased, between Quebec and Montreal and Antwerp... 419
Tariff:
Canadian manufactures, articles for use in, revised duties on ... 355–6
Customs decisions 355
" invoice forms and entries, further regulations regarding 354–5
Liquors, malt and spirituous, regulations affecting importation into the Yukon Territory 265–6
"Market value" regulations, new Customs decisions ... 14–26
"Special duty," articles subject to and exempt from... ... 262–5
Tomato pack in 1904 278
Canal supplies for Panama Canal, tenders for 107–8, 400, 494
Canary Islands. *See Spain.*
Canning factory machinery, opening for, in China 588
Cape Colony. *See Africa, South.*
Cassava industry in Jamaica 130
Castor oil, tenders for, in Cape Colony 297
Catalogues and advertising matter, duty on, in Australia 461
Cattle, draught, prohibition of export of, from Ottoman Empire ... 414
" prohibition of importation into Transvaal *via* Lourenço Marques 72
" trade of Austria-Hungary in 1904 521

Digitized by Google

Page
Cement factory, suggested establishment of, in Trinidad 615
„ industry, establishment of, in Canada 568
„ production in Germany 79, 235–6
„ tenders for in British India 3
Cereals, certain, duty-free admission into Venezuela... 225
Ceylon:
Cocoanut cultivation, offer of land for 562
Cotton cultivation 561–2
„ samples from Colombo, report on 327
Lease of crown land for cotton and rubber cultivation 12–13
Mineral resources (manganese, limestone, thorium minerals, &c.) ... 324
Pearl fishery, 1905 132–3
Public works, opening for 341
Tariff:
New port of entry 502
Perfumery, proposed alteration of duties on... 353
Chairs, dining-room, opening for, in Australia 148
„ revolving desk, opening for, in Italy 153
Chambers of Commerce, International Congress at Liége 590
„ „ of South Africa, congress of 568
„ „ of the United Kingdom, Association of, annual meeting of 180–81, 447
Chandeliers, brass, tenders for, in Spain 8
Chile:
Commission to report on coal industry of Chile 560
„ to examine and report on the manufacture of railway plant in the United States of America 560
Copper mining industry of Coquimbo 277
Customs receipts for 1904 570
Insurance companies, new law respecting 85, 617
Light dues, place of payment of 78
Mica, sample of, on view at 73, Basinghall-street, E.C. 108
Opening for:
Bridge construction 204
Electric tramway plant 588
Railway construction and plant 204, 302
Paper money, postponement of conversion of 329
Tenders:
Drainage works at Santiago, award of contract 329
Harbour works... ... ...9, 154, 443
China:
Cotton mills... 501
Opening for:
Canning factory machinery 588
Garden implements 109
Gold crushing machinery 347
Ice plants 346–7
Railway plant 494–5
Shantung Province:
Commercial settlements 428
Gold discovery 373
Sumatra oil at Foochow 81
West River, proposed new regulations of trade 472
Chinaware, opening for, in Servia... 587
Cigarette paper, importation into Venezuela prohibited 321
„ State monopoly of, in Ecuador 184
„ tenders for, in Roumania 201
Citric acid factory, establishment of, in Sicily 569
Clothing, ready-made, industry of Baltimore 518
Coal and coke:
Austria-Hungary: Coal, tenders for 442
Belgium: Hainault: Coal production in 1903 127
Brazil: Coal mines, measures for development of 373
Chile: Commission to report on coal industry 560

Digitized by Google

Coal and coke (*continued*): Page
Denmark:
Coal, opening for 440
„ tenders for 6, 151, 439
Egypt: Valuation tariff for coal and coke 119-20, 269
France: Coal production in 1904 558
Germany:
Coal production in 1904 ... ... 277, 557-8
„ trade in 1904 557-8
Gas coal, tenders for 248, 440, 490
Hamburg: British and German coal in 1904 160-61
Italy:
Coal sacks, tenders for 492-3
Gas and steam coal, tenders for 106
Patent fuel, tenders for 8
Sicily: Coal trade 423
Natal: Coal output and export in 1904 463
Netherlands: Coal, tenders for 342, 490
Norway:
Coal and briquettes, tenders for 394-5
Engine coal, tenders for 395, 439
Spain: Coal, tenders for 250
Sweden: Coal, tenders for 55, 246-7, 298, 582
United Kingdom:
Coal, tenders for 244, 292-3
Royal Commission on coal supplies, final report of. *Review* 240, 288, 574
United States of America:
Alaska: Coal beds 79-80
Gas, retort-coke and by-products in 1903 80-81
Coasting trade of Canary Islands, postponement of restriction of ... 28
Cocoanut cultivation, offer of land for, in Ceylon 562
„ oil, solidified, Customs duty on, in Australia 268
Coffee exports from Brazil in 1904 521
„ import duty on, in French Ivory Coast 318
„ imported into France from the Ivory Coast, maximum quantity admitted at reduced rate of duty in 1905 410
Coffee, regulation as to sale of, in Belgium 38
Collodion for certain manufactures, free admission into Netherlands ... 120, 506
Colombia:
Legal tender, law relating to 236
Paper money, law for further issue of 40
Tariff: Import duties, increase of 225
Colonial agents of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade 11, 205, 253, 496
Colonial Industries, Agriculture, and Technical Instruction, proposed Department of, in Cape Colony 34-5
Colonial office reports, list of 49, 97, 145, 193, 241, 289 337, 385, 433, 481, 529, 576, 624
Colza oil, tenders for, in Roumania 107
Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade: Agents in the Colonies 11, 205, 253, 496
Commercial Intelligence Committee, meeting of 496
Commercial relations between Belgium and Greece 506
„ settlements in Shantung Province 428
„ travellers in Switzerland in 1904 428
„ treaties between Austria-Hungary and Russia, Belgium, and Servia denounced 367
„ treaty between Germany and other Powers 254
„ „ „ Italy and Cuba... 121
„ „ „ „ Switzerland 222
Compasses, opening for, in Russia 342
Congo Free State. *See Africa.*
Copenhagen. *See Denmark.*

Digitized by Google

Page
Copper mine at Besshi (Japan) 560
„ mining industry of Coquimbo 277
„ sulphate, tenders for, in Spain 343
„ wire, tenders for, in Roumania 398–9
Corea: British trade 210
Corn prices in United Kingdom 41, 87, 136, 185, 237, 284, 330, 380, 429, 474, 524, 571, 618
Costa Rica:
Agreement between the Government and the Railway Company ... 369–70
Damage to railway 31, 275
Re-opening of railway to traffic 323
Cotton:
Argentina: Cotton cultivation in Tucuman 279
British East Africa Protectorate: Report on the possibilities of cotton growing. *Review* 574
British Empire grown cotton: Samples on view at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C. 402, 444
British India:
Cotton cake, Indian, feeding experiments with 231
„ goods produced in British Indian mills, tariff valuations for excise duty 177–8
Cotton industry 206–8
„ spinning and weaving returns 33, 128, 326, 500
Ceylon:
Cotton cultivation 561–2
„ samples from Colombo, report on 327
Lease of Crown land for cotton cultivation 12–13
China: Cotton mills... 501
Congo Free State: Cotton cultivation 566
Dutch Colonies: Cotton cultivation 83–4
Egypt: Cotton growing 111
Germany: Cotton spinners and cotton doublers, enquiry for names of 55
Italy:
Cotton cultivation 564–5
Sicily: Palermo: Proposed cotton spinning and dyeing establishment 518
Jamaica: Cotton industry 130
Leeward Islands: Cotton industry 614
Nigeria, Southern: Prohibition of exportation of cotton seed ... 599
Russia: Carriage of cotton by the Orenburg-Tashkend railway ... 175
South Australia: Cotton cultivation 520
Sweden: Cotton waste, tenders for 151
United Kingdom:
Cotton, imports of, grown in British Colonies and Possessions ... 60
„ returns 41, 86–7, 136, 185, 237, 283–4, 330, 380, 429, 473–4, 524, 571, 618
United States of America:
Boll weevil commission of Texas, report of 36
Cotton goods, exports of 81–2, 425, 518–19
Cranes, electric, opening for, in Cape Colony 533–4
„ „ „ France 105
„ „ tenders for, in Belgium 249, 491
„ hydraulic, opening for, in Argentina 401
„ platform, transhipment cars for, tenders for, in Spain 152
Creosote, British, importation of, into Galveston 464
„ oil, tenders for, in Sweden 247
Cuba:
Tariff:
Commercial treaty with Italy 121
Customs circulars 547
„ decisions 223–4
Raw materials, remission of surtaxes on 224–5
Reduced duties for certain articles, termination of 224
Wharf construction, opening for 536

Digitized by Google

Page
Currency in German Colonies 498
" special, establishment of, in Panama 523
Customs duties. *See Tariff changes and Customs regulations.*
Customs receipts of Uruguay for 1904 379
Cyprus:
Mineral wealth 228
Silk industry 230
Trade in 1903 235

Deck spans, tenders for, in British India 485
Denmark:
Coal, tenders for 6, 151, 489
Copenhagen, free port of 427
Opening for:
Bridge construction 440
Coal 440
Railway construction 440
Diamond cutting, competition for discovery of improved method, in Netherlands 582–3
Diamonds, export of, from Cape Colony in 1904 372
Differential duties, return. *Review* 574
Disinfecting apparatus, opening for, in Argentina 401
Dock dues at Table Bay, additions to 30
Drachma, Greek, rise in exchange value of 376–7
Drainage material, opening for, in Cape Colony 297, 438
" works at Santiago, award of contract 329
" " tenders for, in Spain 299
Dredging works, opening for, in Brazil 253
Dutch Colonies. *See Netherlands.*

Ecuador:
"Gulf Line" to Ecuador to call at Havre 419
Rubber trees, bounty for 467
State monopoly of matches, tobacco and cigarette paper 184
Egypt. *See Africa.*
Elba. *See Italy.*
Electric accumulator, opening for, in Argentina 401
" arc lamps and lanterns, tenders for, in Transvaal 439
" cranes, opening for, in Cape Colony 533–4
" " " " France 105
" " tenders for, in Belgium 249, 491
" lighting installation, opening for, in Cape Colony 438, 533
" " " " " Senegal 441
" " " tenders for, in Austria-Hungry... ... 57
" " " " " Belgium 343
" " " " " Senegal 534
" " " " " Spain 299, 584
" " material, opening for, in Egypt 5
" " " tenders for, in Transvaal 488–9
" power plant, opening for, in Cape Colony 438, 533
" " " " Natal 149
" " " " Senegal 441
" " tenders for, in Senegal 534
" railway construction, opening for, in Switzerland 7, 56
" tramway concession, tenders for, in Spain ... 249-50, 299, 397, 441, 585

Digitized by Google

Page
Electric tramway construction and plant, opening for, in Canary Isles ... 105–6
" " " " " Chile ... 588
" " " " " Italy ... 301, 345
" " " " " Natal ... 54, 149
" " " " " Portugal ... 534
" " " " " Spain ... 299, 343
" " material, tenders for, in Transvaal 488–9
Emigration statistics of the United Kingdom 89, 286, 478
Engine boilers, duty on, in Roumania 76
Enquiry bureaus, proposed establishment of, in Russia 523
Ether, sulphuric, for manufacture of photographic paper, free admission into Netherlands 120
Exchange rates in Mauritius for assessment of *ad valorem* duties for 1905 219
Exchange rate in Spain for adjustment of Customs duties payable in gold 175, 270, 359, 462, 547
Exhibitions:
Austria-Hungary: Automobiles and motor boats, international exhibition of 401–02
Belgium: Liége exhibition, 1905 589
Cape Colony: Cape Town industrial exhibition, closing of ... 253
France:
Algerian products, sample room in London 495
Bordeaux: Agricultural exhibition 589
Lyons: Agricultural exhibition 589
Paris:
Automobile and sports exhibition, international, in 1907 ... 156
Milling and bakery exhibition, international 443
Rouen: Agricultural exhibition 589
Italy: Milan exhibition, 1906 590
Russia: St. Petersburg: Building exhibition 495
Switzerland: Automobiles and cycles, national exhibition ... 536
United Kingdom:
Algerian products, sample room in London... 495
Colonial and Indian exhibition at the Crystal Palace... ... 204
United States of America: St. Louis exhibition 10
Explosives, consumption tax on, in Mexico 547
Export duties. *See Tariff changes and Customs regulations.*

Fancy goods, opening for, in Servia 587
Federated Malay States:
Exports in 1904 469
Perak: Tariff: Tin, revised export duties on 409
Standard for local time, adoption of 469
Tin exports in 1904 517
Fence wire, netting and posts, tenders for, in Norway ... 200–01, 247
Finland. *See Russia.*
Fish, fisheries, &c.:
Cape Colony: proposed amendment of Fisheries Law 375
Ceylon: Pearl fishery, 1905 132–3
Indo-China: Fishing industry 134
Mediterranean coast: Sardine and tunny fishing nets 113
Queensland: Pearl shell and beche-de-mer fisheries in 1903 ... 468
United Kingdom: Fishing statistics 132, 375, 522
Flooring, patent, opening for, in Servia 586
Flour export from Russia to the United Kingdom 83
Flour made from mixed American and foreign wheat, drawback on, in United States of America 511
Flour made wholly from imported wheat, drawback on, in United States of America 605

Digitized by Google

Page

Food products imported into the United States of America, regulations respecting labelling of ... 414
Food products (Italian) consigned to other countries, new special railway tariff for ... 125
Forage and paillasse straw, tenders for, in United Kingdom ... 436
Foreign countries and British possessions, trade of ... 67-8, 301-5, 592-3
Foreign Office Reports:
List of ... 46-9, 93-7, 141-5, 189-93, 241, 289, 337, 385, 432-3, 480-81, 529, 575-6, 623-4
Précis of... 44-5, 91-2, 140, 187, 287-8, 335-6, 382-3, 479-80, 527-8, 573, 620-21
Foreign trade of the United Kingdom, changes in monthly accounts for 1905 ... 444-6
Foreign trade of the United Kingdom in December, and the year, 1904 60-67
" " " " January, 1905 ... 254-8
" " " " February, 1905 ... 447-54
Fox raising in Alaska ... 135
France:
Agricultural exhibitions at Bordeaux, Lyons, and Rouen... 589
Algeria:
Railway statistics for 1904 ... 556
Sample room in London of Algerian products ... 495
Tariff:
Adjeroud-Kiss opened to transit trade to Morocco ... 75
Municipal octroi de mer duties ... 75
Artificial silk ... 561
Automobile and sports exhibition, international in Paris, in 1907 ... 156
" industry ... 463
Brest-Dakar cable... 376, 470, 616
Coal production in 1904 ... 558
French Colonies and Possessions: Trade in 1903 ... 540-41
French India:
Opening for:
Building materials ... 492
Railway plant ... 492
Water pipes ... 492
French West Africa:
Agricultural experiments: silk and rubber ... 232-3
Conakry-Niger railway, rates on ... 515
Rubber, regulations for collection and sale of ... 465-6
"Gulf Line" to Ecuador to call at Havre ... 419
Indo-China:
Fishing industry ... 134
Opening for:
Fuel ... 249
Railway construction and plant ... 249
Rice export from Saigon in 1904 ... 374
Sericulture, measures for fostering ... 232
Tariff: Salt, consumption duty on ... 270
Vinh-Hanoi railway, completion of ... 611
Iron and steel production in 1904 ... 559
Ivory Coast:
Coffee exported to France, maximum quantity admitted at reduced rate of duty in 1905 ... 410
Tariff: Coffee, import duty on ... 318
Milling and bakery exhibition, international ... 443
Opening for:
Electric cranes, &c. ... 105
Stone crushers ... 55-6
Railway statistics for 1904 ... 556
Senegal:
Brest-Dakar cable ... 376, 470, 616
Electric light and power installation, opening for ... 441
" " tenders for ... 534

Digitized by Google

France (*continued*): Page
Sonegal (*continued*):
Groundnut crop failure: probable effect on trade 563–4
Sericulture in 1904 180
Steamship line with New York 227
„ service between La Pallice and Liverpool 322
„ „ Marseilles and Mombasa 322
Tahiti:
Opening for:
Lighthouse construction 105
Port works 105
Tariff:
Coffee imported from Ivory Coast, maximum quantity admitted at reduced rate of duty in 1905 410
Customs decisions 74, 318
India rubber sheets and threads, proposed reduction of import duty 211
Jamaican produce transhipped in Canada, Customs treatment of 507
Methylic alcohol, denaturation of 318
Trade in 1904 182
Trans-Pyrenean railways 226
Tunis:
Phosphate deposits 349–50
Sericulture, development of 614
Freight rates. *See Shipping and Railways.*
Frozen meat establishment opened in Uruguay 379
Fruit output of California in 1904... 466
Fuel, opening for, in Indo-China 249
„ patent, tenders for, in Italy 8
„ tenders for, in Belgium 583
Furniture, opening for, in Servia 587

Galveston. *See United States of America.*
Gambia. *See Africa.*
Garden implements, opening for, in China 109
Garnet, new source of, in United States of America 128
Gas oil, tenders for, in Sweden 393
Gas, retort-coke and by-products in the United States of America in 1903 80–81
Germany:
Cameroons: Tariff. Revised Customs tariff 220–21
Cement production 79, 235–6
Coal production in 1904 ... ... 277, 557–8
„ trade in 1904 557–8
Commercial treaties between Germany and other Powers ... 254
Cotton spinners and cotton doublers, enquiry for names of ... 55
Freight rates, through, to the Levant 78
German Colonies:
Currency 498
Trade in 1903 539
Hamburg:
British and German coal in 1904 160–61
Shipping in 1904 125
Openings for:
Railway construction 9, 396
Rolling-stock 7
Pig-iron production in 1904 276–7
Sugar (candied) manufacturers, formation of society of 37
„ production 563

Digitized by Google

Germany (*continued*): Page
Tariff:
Customs decisions 546
New Customs tariff, date of 462
" " as modified by treaties. *Review* 621
Tare rates, alteration in 410
Tenders:
Gas coal 248, 440, 490
Various materials 248
Togoland: New Customs tariff 27–8
Glass furnaces, gas producers for, opening for, in United States of America 252
" manufacturing machinery " " " 203
Glassware, opening for, in Servia 587
Gloves, opening for, in Servia 153
Goat skins, export trade in, opening for, in Morocco 251–2
Gold Coast. *See Africa.*
Gold crushing machinery, opening for, in China 347
" discovery in Shantung 373
" production, bounty on, in Natal 176
" " in Australia 421–2
" " " New Zealand 421–2
" " " Transvaal in 1904 276
" " " United States of America in 1904 229
" " " World in 1904 229
Government publications, review of. (*See also Colonial Office Reports and Foreign Office Reports*):
Africa, No. 13 (1904). Report on the Survey of the Proposed Frontier between British East Africa and Abyssinia 528
Africa, No. 15 (1904). Report on the East Africa Protectorate, 1903–04 188
Africa, No. 2 (1905). Report on the possibilities of cotton growing in the East Africa Protectorate for 1904 574
Agricultural labourers in the United Kingdom, report on wages, earnings, and conditions of employment 383
Agricultural statistics, Ireland, 1904 336
Alcoholic beverages, 1903 240
Board of Agriculture and Fisheries. Agricultural Returns, 1904 ... 528
Board of Agriculture and Fisheries. Report of Departmental Committee upon the working in Great Britain of the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1893 288
Board of Agriculture, Journal of 188, 574
Board of Trade Labour Gazette 44, 91, 140, 187, 239, 287, 335, 382, 431, 479, 527, 573, 620
Coal supplies, final report of Royal Commission on ... 240, 288, 574
Colonies (Preferential Trade). Papers relating to resolutions passed by Colonial Legislatures since 1890 in favour of Preferential Trade Relations with the United Kingdom... 92
Differential duties return 574
Foreign import duties, 1904 239–40
German tariff, new, as modified by treaties 621
Life assurance companies' return 383
Metric system of weights and measures, papers relating to proposed adoption for use within the Empire 432
Railway accidents in the United Kingdom during the three months ending 30th September, 1904 384
Statistical abstract for British Colonies, Possessions and Protectorate, 1889 to 1903 45
Statistical Abstract for British Empire, 1889 to 1903 431–2
Sugar Convention, further findings of the Permanent Commission ... 288
Trade returns of the United Kingdom 44, 91, 140, 187, 239, 287, 335, 382, 431, 479, 527, 573, 620
Tramways and light railways (street and road) return 383–4
Grain crop in the Amour region (Russia) 130–31
" export from Odessa 36
" harvest of Argentina in 1904 426

Digitized by Google

Page

Greece:
Drachma, rise in exchange value of 376-7
Paving works, opening for 57
Tariff: Commercial relations with Belgium 506
Grenada. *See British West Indies.*
Groundnut crop failure in Senegal: probable effect on trade 563
Guatemala:
British trade 60
Interoceanic railway, contractor for, distribution of estate of ... 156
Opening for:
Aërated waters 59
Builders' materials 59
Roofing material 203
Sanitary appliances 59
Guiana, British. *See British Guiana.*
"Gulf Line" to Ecuador to call at Havre 419

Haberdashery, opening for, in Servia 587
Hainault. *See Belgium.*
Haiti:
Revised Customs tariff 367
Rumoured alterations in Customs tariff... 353
Hamburg. *See Germany.*
Handkerchiefs, opening for, in Servia 153
Harbour construction, opening for, in Bulgaria 442
" " " Cape Colony 533-4
" " " Finland 6
" " tenders for, in Chile... ... ... 9, 154, 443
" regulations, amended, at Port Natal 226
Hardware, opening for, in Italy 153
" tenders for, in Cape Colony 488
Hardwood industry in Jamaica 130
Harvest of Russia in 1904 35
Hats, opening for, in Ottoman Empire 202-3
" " Servia 153
Hawaii. *See United States of America.*
Hay, prohibition of export of, from Vilayet of Scutari 175
Heating apparatus, opening for, in Australia 148-9
" " steam, tenders for, in Servia 587
" " tenders for, in Belgium... 151-2
Hemp crop of Southern Italy 426
Hides and skins, new sanitary regulations respecting importation into Turkey 603
Holland. *See Netherlands.*
Hong Kong:
Steamship service with Peru suspended 420
Tariff:
Opium, compounds of, importation of 408
Sugar Convention Ordinance, 1904 408
Hydro-electric plant, opening for in Brazil 155
" " " Italy ... 106, 153, 300, 345, 398, 493, 535, 585
" " " Mexico... 9, 58-9, 108, 154, 203, 493-4
" " " Spain 152, 397

Digitized by Google

Page
Ice plants, opening for, in China 346–7
Immigration, alien, into United Kingdom 90, 332, 526
" revised export duties in aid of, in Trinidad and Tobago ... 220
Imperial Institute: Appointment of managing committee 496
Imperial Institute Bulletin, Vol. II., No. 4. *See Supplement to "Board of Trade Journal" of 5th January.*
Import duties. *See Tariff changes and Customs regulations.*
Incandescent light mantles, tariff classification of, in Russia 545
Incubators and brooders, opening for, in Australia 148
India, British. *See British India.*
India, French. *See France.*
Indiarubber fittings, tenders for, in Italy 344–5
" sheets and threads, proposed reduction of import duty, in France 211
Indo-China. *See France.*
Industrial Commission in Orange River Colony, report of 595–6
Inhalers and parts thereof, tariff classification of, in Russia 546
Insulators, tenders for, in Roumania 398–9
" " Spain 397–8
Insurance companies, new law respecting, in Chile 85, 617
Iron and steel:
Belgium: Hainault: Iron production in 1903 127
British India:
Steel material, tenders for 4
Steel works, establishment of, at Barrakar 421
Wrought iron material, tenders for 580
Canada: Pig-iron production in 1904 516
France: Iron and steel production in 1904 559
Germany: Pig-iron production in 1904 276–7
Italy:
Elba: Iron ore no longer exported 32
Iron bars, rivets, nuts and bolts, tenders for 106
Natal: Cast-iron pipes, tenders for 392
Netherlands: Ironwork, tenders for 6–7
New South Wales: Ironworks, proposed establishment of ... 517
Russia:
Corrugated iron, tariff classification of 318
Roofing iron-plate syndicate, proposed 176
Uganda Protectorate: Galvanised wrought-iron piping and fittings, tenders for 246
United States of America:
Bessemer steel ingots and steel rails, production in 1904 ... 424
Open-hearth steel, production in 1904 613
Pig-iron production in 1904 372–3
Irrigation Commission for Transvaal and Orange River Colonies ... 278
" works, opening for, in British India 293
Italy:
Artificial silk 561
British trade in South Italy 347–8
Cotton cultivation 564–5
Elba: Iron ore no longer exported 32
Food products consigned abroad, new special railway tariff for ... 125
Hemp crop of Southern Italy 426
Milan exhibition, 1906 590
Naples: Inducements for the establishment of new industries 250–51, 345
Opening for:
Agricultural implements 153
Automobiles 345
Chairs, revolving desk 153
Electric tramway plant 301, 345
Hardware 153
Hydro-electric plant ... 106, 153, 300, 345, 398, 493, 535, 585
Jute cables 300
Locks 153

Digitized by Google

Italy (*continued*): Page
Opening for (*continued*):
Motor boats 153
Railway construction and plant 107, 342–3, 535
Rolling stock 493
Tin plates 300
Water power plant 442
Yarns 300
Sicily:
Coal trade 423
Palermo:
Citric acid factory, establishment of 569
Proposed cotton spinning and dyeing establishment ... 518
Sulphur trade 423
Silk cocoon crop of 1904 328
Steamers, new, construction of 558
Sumach trade, commission to report on 568
Tariff:
Commercial treaty with Cuba 121
" " " Switzerland 222
Customs decisions 221
Forthcoming tariff alterations 270–72, 318–20, 359–66, 410–13, 507–11, 601–02
Further extension to Japan of reciprocal most-favoured-nation treatment 603
Tenders:
Aqueduct construction 56, 301
Bunting 492–3
Coal, gas and steam 106
Coal sacks 492–3
Fuel, patent 8
Indiarubber fittings 344–5
Iron bars, rivets, nuts and bolts 106
Spelter 201
Zinc 201
Trade with United Kingdom 134
Truffle cultivation 565–6

Jamaica. *See British West Indies.*
Japan:
Bicycles and accessories, opening for 155–6
Copper mine at Besshi 560
Tariff:
Customs decisions 609
Customs storage, revised charges for 462
Further extension to Italy of reciprocal most-favoured-nation treatment 603
Import and consumption duties, proposed increase of ... 215
" " forthcoming increase of 548–54, 606–09
Wheat crop 37
Jute cables, opening for, in Italy 300

Korea. *See Corea.*

Digitized by Google

Page
Labour Gazette. *Review* 44, 91, 140, 187, 239, 287, 335, 382, 431, 479, 527, 573, 620
Labour market, state of, in December, 1904 131
" " January, 1905 374
" " February, 1905 567
Lager beer, essence of, importation into Australia prohibited 597
Lagos. *See Africa.*
Lamps, tenders for, in British India 101
Launches, steam and petroleum, opening for machinery for, in Argentina 401
Leather belting, tenders for, in British India 101
" mail bags, tenders for, in Cape Colony 296–7
" tenders for, in Belgium 105
Leeward Islands. *See British West Indies.*
Legal tender in Colombia, law relating to 236
Liége. *See Belgium.*
Life assurance companies' return. *Review* 383
Light dues in Chile, place of payment of 78
Lighthouse construction, opening for, in Mozambique 441
" " " Tahiti 105
" " tenders for, in Panama 536
" syrens, opening for, in Spain 535
Lima. *See Peru.*
Limestone in Ceylon 324
Liquor Ordinance, 1904, in British Central Africa Protectorate ... 358
Liquorice root trade in Mesopotamia 162–3
Liquors, malt and spirituous, regulations affecting importation into the Yukon Territory 265–6
Litharge, purchase of, tenders for, in Ottoman Empire 251
Live stock imported into Cape Colony and sent to the Transvaal for slaughter purposes, railway rate on 77
Locks, opening for, in Italy 153

Machinery, opening for, in Argentina 302
" " Austria-Hungary 346
Madeira. *See Portugal.*
Manganese ore in Ceylon 324
Mangrove bark industry of Mozambique 459–60
Marine survey fees in South Australia 274
"Market value" regulations in Canada, new Customs decisions ... 14–26
Matches, State monopoly of, in Ecuador 184
Mauritius:
Public works, opening for 200
Tariff:
"Bloomer," importation of 317
Exchange rates for assessment of *ad valorem* duties for 1905 ... 219
Increased duties 118–19
Wines and spirits, amended Customs and excise duties ... 219
Meat, freight rates from Argentina to the United Kingdom 611
Medical stores, opening for, in Spain 8
Medicines, patent, regulations affecting importation and sale of, in New Zealand 71
Medicines, patent, regulations regarding tax on, in Argentine Republic... 28
" restrictions on sale of, in Venezuela 273
Mesopotamia. *See Ottoman Empire.*
Metals, valuation tariff for, in Egypt 317
Metric System of Weights and Measures, papers relating to proposed adoption for use within the British Empire. *Review* 432

Digitized by Google

Page

Mexico:
British trade 11–12
Monetary law, new 38–9, 183
Opening for:
Hydro-electric plant 9, 58–9, 108, 154, 203, 493–4
Railway construction 58
Sewerage works 58
Smelting works machinery 252–3
Telegraph wire 108
Silk, artificial, manufacture of 33
Subsidised steamship service with Austria-Hungary 30
Tariff: Consumption tax on explosives 547
Mica from Chile, sample on view at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C. ... 108
„ in Central Australia 557
Milan. *See Italy.*
Military school supplies, tenders for, in United Kingdom 243–4
Milling and bakery exhibitions, international, in Paris 443
Mineral oils and spirits, regulations affecting importation into Australian Commonwealth 218
Mining:
Australia:
Gold production in 1904 421–2
Mica in Central Australia 557
Belgium: Hainault: Coal and iron production in 1903 127
Brazil: Coal mines, measures for development of 373
British India: Petroleum industry in Burma 323–4
Canada:
Asbestos deposits, new 516
Quebec: New mineral district 32
Ceylon: Mineral resources (manganese, limestone, thorium minerals, &c.) 324
Chile:
Commission to report on coal industry 560
Copper mining industry of Coquimbo 277
China: Gold discovery in Shantung 373
Cyprus: Mineral wealth 228
France:
Coal production in 1904 558
Tunis: Phosphate deposits 349–50
Germany: Coal production in 1904 ... ... 277, 557–8
Italy: Elba: Iron ore no longer exported 32
Japan: Copper mine at Beeshi 560
Leeward Islands: Mineral products 612
Natal:
Asbestos deposits: samples on view at 73, Basinghall-street, E.C. 276
Coal output and export in 1904 463
Gold production, bounty on 176
Netherlands: Effect of colliery strikes in Westphalia on the coal trade in the Netherlands 325
New Zealand: Gold production in 1904 422
Ottoman Empire:
Bitumen in Syria 612–13
Mineral resources of Koniah 559
Portugal: Mozambique: New mining ordinance 229
Roumania: Petroleum industry 112–13
Russia:
Bureau at Paris of French and Belgian mineral undertakings in Russia 518
Petroleum production of Baku 325
Platinum industry 126
Spain: Mining industry 79
Tasmania: Mineral production 371–2

Digitized by Google

Mining (*continued*): Page
Transvaal:
Gold production in 1904 ... 276
Mineral production in 1903–04 ... 422
Trinidad: Mineral resources ... 228
United Kingdom: Output of Mines ... 370–71
United States of America:
Alaska: Coal beds ... 79–80
Garnet, new source of ... 128
Gold production in 1904 ... 229
Mineral production in 1904 ... 404–5
Silver production in 1904 ... 229
Tin industry ... 351–2
World's gold production in 1904 ... 229
" quicksilver production ... 593
Molascuit industry in British Guiana ... 464–5
Monetary law, new, in Mexico ... 38–9, 183
Montenegro: Foreign trade ... 471
Montserrat. *See British West Indies.*
Morocco. *See Africa.*
Motor boats, opening for, in Italy ... 153
" cars, opening for, in British India ... 437
" " " Canada ... 532–3
Motors, marine, opening for, in Sweden ... 393
Mozambique. *See Portugal—Portuguese East Africa.*

Natal. *See Africa, South.*
Nautical instruments, opening for, in Russia ... 342
Navigation Act, new, for Western Australia ... 514
Netherlands:
Competition for discovery of improved method of diamond cutting ... 582–3
Dutch Colonies: Cotton cultivation ... 83–4
Dutch West Indies: New service of steamers between Curaçoa and European ports ... 125
Effect of colliery strikes in Westphalia on the coal trade in the Netherlands ... 325
Tariff:
Acetic acid for certain manufactures, exemption from duty ... 506
Collodion for certain manufactures, free admission of ... 120, 506
Import duty on certain goods containing sugar ... 600
Sulphuric ether for manufacture of photographic paper, free admission of ... 120
Tenders:
Bridge material ... 6–7
Coal ... 342, 490
Ironwork ... 6–7
Railway material ... 6–7, 395–6, 490
" reconstruction work ... 396
New South Wales. *See Australian Commonwealth.*
New Zealand:
Gold production in 1904 ... 422
Import trade, 1903–04 ... 85
Tariff:
Customs decisions ... 70–71, 357–8, 544–5
Medicines, patent, regulations affecting importation and sale of 71
Preferential and Reciprocal Trade Act, 1903, regulation under 70
Prohibition of manufacture of certain articles in bond ... 597
"Tartaraline," duty on ... 358
Wool clip ... 34

Digitized by Google

Page

Nicaragua:
Railway plant, opening for 442
Tariff:
Duties, method of payment of 76
Tobacco, increase of import duties 605
Nigeria, Southern. *See Africa.*
Norway:
Tenders:
Bronze wire 394
Coal and briquettes 394–5
Coal, engine 395, 439
Fence wire, netting and posts 200–01, 247
Telegraph and telephone material 103–4
Timber and wood pulp trade, bad prospect 469–70

Octroi de Mer (Municipal) duties in Algeria, tariff of 75
Odessa. *See Russia.*
Office materials, opening for, in Ottoman Empire 399–400
Oils, colours, &c., revised valuation tariff for, in Egypt 506
" tenders for, in Sweden 151, 393
Opening for:
Aerated waters in Guatemala 59
Agricultural implements and machinery in Italy 153
" " " Ottoman Empire ... 57
" " " Servia 587
" " " Sweden 394
Anchors in Argentina 401
Aniline dyes in United States of America 302
Automobiles in Italy 345
Baths and fittings in Australia 437
Bicycles and accessories in Japan 155–6
Blood-stock in Brazil 253
Boots and shoes in British West Indies 149–50
Bridge construction in Chile 204
" " Denmark 440
Builders' materials in Brazil 494
" " French India 492
" " Guatemala 59
" " Morocco 252
Buoys in Argentina 443
" Mozambique 441
" light, in Spain 299
Cables in Argentina 401
Canning factory machinery in China 588
Chairs, dining-room, in Australia 148
" revolving desk, in Italy 153
Chinaware in Servia 587
Coal in Denmark 440
Compasses in Russia 342
Cotton cultivation in Ceylon 4
Cranes, electric, in Cape Colony 533–4
" " France 105
" hydraulic, in Argentina 401
Disinfecting apparatus in Argentina 401
Drainage material in Cape Colony 297, 438
Dredging works in Brazil 253
Electric accumulator in Argentina 401
" cranes in Cape Colony 533–4
" " France 105

Digitized by Google

Opening for (*continued*): Page
Electric lighting installation in Cape Colony 438, 533
" " " Senegal 441
" " material in Egypt 5
" power plant in Cape Colony 438, 533
" " Natal 149
" " Senegal 441
" railway construction in Switzerland 7,56
" tramway plant and construction in Canary Isles 105–6
" " " " Chile 588
" " " " Italy 301, 345
" " " " Natal 54, 149
" " " " Portugal 534
" " " " Spain 299, 343
Fancy goods in Servia 587
Flooring, patent, in Servia 586
Fuel in Indo-China 249
Furniture in Servia 587
Garden implements in China 109
Gas producers for glass furnaces in United States of America ... 252
Glass manufacturing machinery in United States of America ... 203
Glassware in Servia 587
Gloves in Servia 153
Goat skins, export trade, in Morocco 251–2
Gold crushing machinery in China 347
Haberdashery in Servia 587
Handkerchiefs in Servia 153
Harbour construction in Bulgaria 442
" " Cape Colony 533–4
" " Finland 6
Hardware in Italy 153
Hats in Ottoman Empire 202–3
" Servia 153
Heating apparatus in Australia 148–9
Hydro-electric plant in Brazil 155
" " Italy 106, 153, 300, 345, 398, 493, 535, 585
" " Mexico ... 9, 58–9, 108, 154, 203, 493–4
" " Spain 152, 397
Ice plants in China 346–7
Incubators and brooders in Australia 148
Irrigation works in British India 293
Jute cables in Italy 300
Launches, steam and petroleum, machinery for, in Argentina ... 401
Lighthouse construction in Mozambique 441
" " Tahiti 105
" syrens in Spain 535
Locks in Italy 153
Machinery in Argentina 302
Medical stores in Spain 8
Motor boats in Italy 153
" cars in British India 437
" " Canada 532–3
Motors, marine, in Sweden 393
Nautical instruments in Russia 342
Office materials in Ottoman Empire 399–400
Paper in Ottoman Empire 399–400
" Servia 587
Paving works in Greece 57
Pier works at Bombay 244
Plants and seeds in Brazil 253
Port works in Portuguese East Africa 584
" " Tahiti 105
Pottery in Servia 587
Presses, rotary, for copper engraving in Spain 7
Public works in Ceylon 341

Digitized by Google

Opening for (*continued*): Page
Public works in Mauritius 200
Pumping plant and pipes in Cape Colony 54
" " Orange River Colony 298
Pumps, atmospheric turbine, in Cape Colony 246
Quay construction in Servia 399
Rails in Russia 5
Railway construction and plant in Austria-Hungary 9
" " " Brazil 59, 204, 253, 346
" " " Chile 204, 302
" " " China 494–5
" " " Denmark 440
" " " French India... 492
" " " Germany 9, 396
" " " Indo-China 249
" " " Italy 107, 342–3, 535
" " " Mexico 58
" " " Nicaragua 442
" " " Ottoman Empire 302
" " " Philippines 400–01
" " " Russia 396
" " " Servia 399
" " " Switzerland 56, 342–3
" material and rolling stock in Brazil 10, 155
" " " Bulgaria 442
" " " Germany 7
" " " Italy 493
" " " Natal 534
" " " Orange River Colony ... 341
" " " Peru 588
" " " Portuguese East Africa ... 584
" " " Servia 586
" " " Spain 585
River improvement works in Brazil 253
Roofing material in Guatemala 203
Rubber cultivation in Ceylon 4
Salt in Bulgaria 586
Sanitary appliances in Argentina 155
" " Guatemala 59
Semolina in Morocco 252
Sewerage works in Mexico 58
Silk filatures, lease of, in Italy 398
Smelting works machinery in Mexico 252–3
Stationery in Servia 587
Steam roller in Spain 585
Steam rollers in Cape Colony... 488
Steamers in Austria-Hungary 251
Stone crushers in France 55–6
Surgical and scientific instruments in Spain 8
Tables, dining-room, in Australia 148
Telegraph wire in Mexico 108
Textile machinery in Austria-Hungary 346
Ties in Servia 153
Tin plates in Italy 300
Tramway, steam, concession, in British India 390
" " Spain 343–4
Warehouse construction in Servia 399
Water meters in Spain 344
" purification works in Spain 250
Waterworks in Brazil 253
" Canada 532
" Cape Colony 102, 149, 439
" French India 492
" Italy 442
" Servia 399

Digitized by Google

Opening for (*continued*): Page
Waterworks in Spain 344
Weighing machines, automatic, in Argentina 401
Wharf construction in Cuba 536
Wire fencing in Uruguay 346
Yarns in Italy 300
Opium, compounds of, tariff regulations regarding importation into Hong Kong 408
Orange River Colony. *See Africa, South.*
Ottoman Empire:
Bitumen in Syria 612–13
Chemical analysis of articles of consumption: commission of enquiry 428
Mesopotamia: Liquorice root trade 162–3
Mineral resources of Koniah 559
Opening for:
Agricultural machinery 57
Hats 202–3
Office materials... 399–400
Paper 399–400
Railway plant 302
Tariff:
Cattle, draught, prohibition of export of 414
Hay, prohibition of export of, from Vilayet of Scutari ... 175
Hides and skins, new sanitary regulations respecting importation of 603
Tenders for purchase of litharge 251

Paints, &c., tenders for, in British India 339
Palermo. *See Italy—Sicily.*
Palm-leaf hat trust of Malaga 376
Panama:
Currency, special, establishment of 523
Tariff:
Agreement with United States of America 28–9
Customs regulations of the Panama Canal Zone 321
Tenders:
Lighthouse construction... 536
Public building construction 536
Panama Canal Zone. *See United States of America.*
Paper money, law for further issue of, in Colombia 40
" " postponement of conversion of, in Chile 329
" opening for, in Ottoman Empire 399–400
" " Servia 587
" tenders for, in Austria-Hungary 301
Paving works, opening for, in Greece 57
" tenders for, in Austria-Hungary 57
" " Belgium 440, 491
Pearl fishery of Ceylon in 1905 132–3
Pearl-shell and beche-de-mer fisheries of Queensland in 1903 468
Pepper, black. valuation tariff for, in Egypt 269
Perak. *See Federated Malay States.*
Perfumery, proposed alteration of duties on, in Ceylon 353
Persia: Tariff: Import duties, forthcoming increase of 211, 306
Peru:
Denatured alcohol freed from taxation 40
" " regulations modified... 471
Lima: British trade... 205
Railway development 541–4
" material, opening for 588
Steamship service with Hong Kong suspended 420

Digitized by Google

Page
Petroleum, countervailing duty on, in United States of America ... 416
„ for oil engines, free importation into St. Christopher-Nevis ... 505
„ industry in Burma 323–4
„ „ Roumania 112–13
„ production of Baku 325
„ volatile, Customs regulations regarding, in Grenada ... 316–17
Philippine Islands. *See United States of America.*
Phosphate deposits in Tunis 349–50
Pier works, opening for, at Bombay 244
Pilotage, compulsory, at Table Bay 77
„ exemption in South Australian ports 274
Piping, tenders for, in Sweden 489
Plants and seeds, opening for, in Brazil 253
Platinum industry in Russia 126
Police stores, tenders for, in Egypt 103
„ uniforms, &c., tenders for, in Cape Colony 533
Porcelain insulators, tenders for, in Spain 397–8
Port and harbour regulations, amended, at Port Natal 226
„ of entry, new, in Ceylon 502
„ improvement, proposed, at Alexandria... 77
„ new, in Canary Islands 556
„ „ on Red Sea 77–8, 226
„ works at Monte Video 556
„ „ opening for, in Portuguese East Africa 584
„ „ „ „ Tahiti 105
Portugal:
Electric tramway plant, opening for 534
Madeira: Hinton-Naudet process for manufacture of sugar ... 233
Metallic bridgework, tenders for 584
Portuguese East Africa:
Mozambique:
Mangrove bark industry 459–60
Mining ordinance, new 229
Opening for:
Buoys... 441
Lighthouse construction 441
Opening for:
Port works 584
Railway material 584
Trade in 1903 183
Postal packages imported into Cape Colony, rebate of duties 218
Pottery, opening for, in Servia 587
Poultry, depôt in Tasmania for export of, to United Kingdom and South Africa 129
Preferential and Reciprocal Trade Act, 1903, in New Zealand, regulation under 70
Preferential trade relations with United Kingdom, papers relating to resolutions in favour of, passed by Colonial Legislatures since 1890. *Review* 92
Presses, rotary, for copper engraving, opening for, in Spain 7
Public works, opening for, in Ceylon 341
„ „ „ „ Mauritius 200
„ „ tenders for, in Panama 536
Pumping plant and pipes, opening for, in Cape Colony 54
„ „ „ „ „ Orange River Colony ... 298
Pumps, atmospheric turbine, opening for, in Cape Colony 246

Quay construction, opening for, in Servia 399
Quebec. *See Canada.*
Queensland. *See Australian Commonwealth.*
Quicksilver production of the world... 593

Digitized by Google

Page

Railways:
Africa, South: Proposed reduction in railway rates from Coast Ports to Johannesburg ... 610
Argentina: Railway statistics for 1904 ... 419–20
Austria-Hungary: Railway construction, opening for ... 9
Belgium:
Railway construction and plant, tenders for 104, 201, 298, 343, 397, 491, 583
" stores, tenders for ... 7
Brazil:
Railway construction and plant, opening for ... 59, 204, 253, 346
" material, opening for ... 10, 155
" stores, tenders for ... 109
Rolling stock, tenders for ... 10, 103
British India:
Railway material and stores, tenders for ... 3–4, 51–3, 100–01, 197–8, 293–4, 389–90, 485–6, 531–2, 580
Sleepers, creosoted pine, tenders for ... 436
Wagons, ballast, tenders for ... 579
Bulgaria: Rolling stock, opening for ... 442
Cape Colony:
Hardwood sleepers and Jarrah timber, tenders for ... 438
Railway rate for imported live stock sent to the Transvaal for slaughter purposes ... 77
Reduced railway rates on goods "in transit" to Western Transvaal ... 555
Chile:
Commission to examine and report on the manufacture of railway plant in the United States of America ... 560
Railway construction and plant, opening for ... 204, 302
China: Railway plant, opening for ... 494–5
Costa Rica:
Agreement between the Government and the Railway Company 369–70
Damage to railway ... 31, 275
Re-opening of railway to traffic ... 323
Denmark: Railway construction, opening for ... 440
France:
Algeria: Railway statistics for 1904 ... 556
French India: Railway plant, opening for ... 492
French West Africa: Rates on Conakry-Niger railway ... 515
Indo-China:
Completion of Vinh-Hanoi railway ... 611
Railway construction and plant, opening for ... 249
Railway statistics for 1904 ... 556
Trans-Pyrenean railways... ... 226
Germany:
Railway construction, opening for... ... 9, 396
Rolling stock, opening for ... 7
Guatemala: Inter-oceanic railway, contractor for, distribution of estate of... ... 156
Italy:
Food products consigned abroad, new special railway tariff for .. 125
Railway construction and plant, opening for ... 107, 342–3, 535
Rolling stock, opening for ... 493
Jamaica: Railway rates for bananas ... 123
Lagos: Railway material, tenders for ... 200
Mexico: Railway construction, opening for ... 18
Natal:
Durban: New rates for forwarding goods ... 610
Railway material, opening for ... 534
Netherlands:
Railway material, tenders for ... 6–7, 395–6, 490
" reconstruction work ... 396
New South Wales: Railway statistics ... 514
Nicaragua: Railway plant, opening for ... 442

Digitized by Google

Railways (*continued*): Page
Orange River Colony: Railway material, opening for 341
Ottoman Empire: Railway plant, opening for 302
Peru:
Railway development 541–4
„ material, opening for 588
Portuguese East Africa: Railway material, opening for 584
Queensland:
Freight rates on Government railways 274
Rails and fishplates, tenders for 53
Russia:
Cotton, carriage of, by the Orenburg-Tashkend railway ... 175
Rails, opening for 5
Railway construction, opening for... 396
„ statistics 515
Siberian railway, alternative route to connect with Western Russia 123–4
Trans-Baikal railway 124–5
Servia:
Railway material, opening for 586
„ plant, opening for 399
South Australia: Railway materials, tenders for 294–5
Spain:
Railway plant and rolling stock, opening for 585
Trans-Pyrenean railways... 226
Sweden: Rails, &c., tenders for 489
Switzerland:
Electric railway construction, opening for 7, 56
Railway construction, opening for... ... ... 56, 342–3
United Kingdom:
Railway accidents during the three months ending 30th September, 1904. *Review*... 384
Tramways and light railways (street and road) return. *Review*. 383–4
United States of America:
American Railway Association 323
New railways in 1904 274
Output of cars and locomotives in 1904 274–5
Permanent way of United States railways 322
Philippines:
Proposed new railways 30–31
Railway material, opening for 400–01
Railway clearing house 322
„ rates for goods 322
Rhodesia. *See Africa, South.*
Rice crop, winter, of Bengal, estimated production 129
„ export from Saigon in 1904 374
„ growing experiments in British Guiana: imported varieties superior 179–80
„ industry in Jamaica 130
Rice-meal, drawback regulations, in Australia 70
Rifles, &c., facilities granted in certain cases for importation into Barbados 599
River improvement works, opening for, in Brazil 253
Roller, steam, opening for, in Spain 585
Rollers, steam, opening for, in Cape Colony 488
Roofing iron-plate syndicate, proposed, in Russia 176
„ material, opening for, in Guatemala 203
Roumania:
Consumption tax leviable on goods discharged at the Port of Sulina 227
Petroleum industry 112–13
Tariff:
Engine boilers, duty on 76
Revised list of excise duties 121
Tenders:
Benzine 107
Brass wire 398–9
Cigarette paper... 201

Digitized by Google

Roumania (*continued*): Page
Tenders (*continued*):
Colza oil 107
Conditions governing State Monopoly contracts 301
Copper wire 398–9
Insulators 398–9
Shovels 107
Tin boxes 154
Rubber cultivation in Ceylon, lease of Crown land for 12–13
,, experiments in French West Africa 232–3
,, regulations for collection and sale of, in French West Africa ... 465–6
,, trees, bounty for, in Ecuador 467
Rum, continuation of duties on, in St. Christopher-Nevis 545
,, export duty on, in Jamaica... 407–8
,, Protection Law in Jamaica 407–8
Russia:
Butter trade: Increased export to Germany 562–3
Cotton, carriage of, by the Orenburg-Tashkend railway 175
Enquiry bureaus, proposed establishment of 523
Finland:
Harbour construction, opening for 6
Tariff alterations 600
Flour export to the United Kingdom 83
Grain crop in the Amour region 130–31
Harvest of 1904 35
Mineral undertakings in Russia, French and Belgian bureau at Paris 518
Odessa: Grain export 36
Opening for:
Compasses and nautical instruments 342
Rails 5
Railway construction 396
Petroleum production of Baku 325
Platinum industry 126
Railway statistics 515
Roofing iron-plate syndicate, proposed 176
St. Petersburg: Building exhibition 495
Shipbuilding in the Baltic region in 1904 228–9
Siberian railway, alternative route to connect with Western Russia 123–4
Tariff:
Commercial treaty with Austria-Hungary denounced ... 367
Corrugated iron, classification of 318
Inhalers and parts thereof, classification of 546
Mantles for incandescent light, classification of 545
Tariff classifications 599–600
Tea in transit to Kerki *viâ* Batoum, &c. 599
Tea industry in the Caucasus 327–8
Timber, sale of, in Archangel and Vologda 182
Trade, foreign 161–2, 302
Trans-Baikal railway 124–5
Warships, conference to obtain restriction of orders to native industry... 126–7

Sacks, coal, tenders for, in Italy 492–3
,, grain, tenders for, in Egypt 341–2
St. Christopher-Nevis. *See British West Indies.*
St. Louis. *See United States of America.*
Salt, consumption duty on, in French Indo-China 270
,, opening for, in Bulgaria 586

Digitized by Google

Page

San Domingo:
Amber deposit 617
Tariff: Sugar and sugared products, reduction of import duties on 225
Sanitary appliances, opening for, in Argentina 155
" " Guatemala 59
Sardine and tunny fishing nets used on the Mediterranean Coast ... 113
Scientific instruments, opening for, in Spain 8
Sea-carriage of Goods Act, 1904, in Australian Commonwealth ... 368–9
Seal catch of Alaska for 1904 135
Semolina, opening for, in Morocco 252
Senegal. *See France.*
Sericulture (*see also Silk*):
Brazil 279
British East Africa Protectorate 231
France 180
Indo-China 232
Tunis 614
Servia:
British trade 590–91
Opening for:
Agricultural implements and machinery 587
Chinaware 587
Fancy goods 587
Flooring, patent 586
Furniture 587
Glassware 587
Gloves... 153
Haberdashery 587
Handkerchiefs 153
Hats 153
Paper 587
Pottery 587
Quay construction 399
Railway material 586
" plant 399
Stationery 587
Ties 153
Warehouse construction 399
Water pipes 399
Steam-heating apparatus, tenders for 587
Tariff: Commercial treaty with Austria-Hungary denounced ... 367
Trade in 1903 616–17
Sewerage works, opening for, in Mexico 58
Shan States. *See British India.*
Shipping:
Argentina:
Facility of transfer of vessels to Argentine register 463
Freight rates for meat and butter to the United Kingdom ... 611
Steamship line between Buenos Aires and Austria-Hungary ... 227
Australian Commonwealth: Sea-carriage of Goods Act, 1904 ... 368–9
Austria-Hungary:
Steamers, opening for 251
Steamship line between Fiume and Buenos Aires 227
Subsidised steamship line to Central and South America ... 30
Belgium:
Antwerp: Shipping statistics 515
Increased steamship sailings from Antwerp to Quebec and Montreal 419
Steamship communication with the Far East 78
" service between Ghent and Dublin and Belfast ... 515
British East Africa Protectorate: Steamship service between Mombasa and Marseilles 322
British Honduras: Steamship service with United States of America 556

Digitized by Google

Shipping (*continued*): Page
Canada: Increased steamship service between Quebec and Montreal and Antwerp ... 419
Cape Colony: Table Bay:
Dock dues, addition to ... 30
Pilotage, compulsory ... 77
Chile: Light dues, place of payment of ... 78
Dutch West Indies: New service of steamers between Curaçoa and European ports ... 125
Ecuador: "Gulf Line" to Ecuador to call at Havre ... 419
Egypt:
Alexandria: Proposed port improvement ... 77
New Red Sea port ... 77-8, 226
France:
"Gulf Line" to Ecuador to call at Havre ... 419
Steamship service between La Pallice and Liverpool ... 322
" " Marseilles and Mombasa ... 322
" " New York and French Channel ports 227
Germany:
Hamburg: Shipping in 1904 ... 125
Through freight rates to the Levant ... 78
Gold Coast:
Traffic regulations on the River Volta ... 610
Wharfage dues reduced ... 610
Hong Kong: Suspension of steamer service with Peru ... 420
Italy: Steamers, new, construction of ... 558
Jamaica: Alligator Pond to be closed as port of entry ... 514
Mexico: Subsidised steamship line with Austria-Hungary ... 30
Natal:
Durban:
Increased depth of water ... 555
New rates for forwarding goods ... 610
Port Natal: Amended port and harbour regulations ... 226
New South Wales: Facilities for shipping wool ... 555
Peru: Suspension of steamer service with Hong Kong ... 420
Roumania: Consumption tax leviable on goods discharged at the Port of Sulina ... 227
Russia: Shipbuilding in the Baltic region in 1904 ... 228-9
Somaliland Protectorate: Port of Zaila ... 226
South Australia:
Marine survey fees ... 274
Pilotage exemption ... 274
Spain:
Canary Islands:
Coasting trade, postponement of restriction of ... 28
New port ... 556
Switzerland: Freight charges from London to Basle ... 227
United Kingdom:
Steamship service between Dublin and Belfast and Ghent ... 515
Steamship service between Liverpool and La Pallice ... 322
Tonnage, measurement of: departmental committee of enquiry 419
United States of America:
Cargo boat service with Hawaii ... 31
Steamship service with British Honduras ... 556
" " French ports ... 227
" " Venezuela ... 275
Uruguay: Port works at Monte Video ... 556
Venezuela: Steamship service with United States of America ... 275
Victoria: Revised scale of wharfage charges at ports ... 369
Western Australia: New Navigation Act ... 514
Shovels, tenders for, in Roumania ... 107
Sicily. *See Italy.*
Silk (*see also Sericulture*):
Silk cocoon crop of 1904 in Italy ... 328
" conditioned at European silk centres ... 305

Digitized by Google

Silk (*continued*): Page
Silk experiments in French West Africa 232
„ industry in Cyprus 230
„ „ Hungary 402–04
Silk, artificial, in Belgium, France and Italy 561
„ „ manufacture of, in Mexico 33
„ filatures, opening for lease of, in Austria-Hungary 398
Silver production in United States of America in 1904 229
Smelting works machinery, opening for, in Mexico 252–3
Smokeless powder ingredients, tenders for, in Spain 152
Somaliland Protectorate. *See Africa.*
South Africa. *See Africa, South.*
South Australia. *See Australian Commonwealth.*
Spain:
Canary Islands:
Electric tramway plant, opening for 105–6
New port 556
Tariff: Coasting trade, postponement of restriction of ... 28
Mining industry 79
Opening for:
Buoys, light 300
Electric tramway plant 299, 343
Hydro-electric plant 152, 397
Lighthouse syrens 535
Medical stores 8
Presses, rotary, for copper engraving 7
Railway plant and rolling stock 585
Steam roller 585
Surgical and scientific instruments 8
Tramway, steam, concession 343–4
Water meters 344
Water purification works 250
Water works 344
Palm-leaf hat trust of Malaga 376
Spanish West Africa: Tenders for exploitation 344
Tariff:
Alcohols and spirits, neutral, drawback allowed on exportation 546
Exchange rate for adjustment of Customs duties payable in gold 175, 270, 359, 462, 547
Tenders:
Brass chandeliers 8
Coal 250
Copper sulphate 343
Cranes, platform, transhipment cars for 152
Drainage works... 299
Electric lighting 299, 584
Electric tramway concession 249–50, 299, 397, 441, 585
Exploitation of Spanish Colonies in West Africa 344, 534–5
Porcelain insulators 397–8
Smokeless powder ingredients 152
Street improvement 299
Telegraph material 300
„ posts... 492
Telephone material 300
Tramway plant... 441
Zinc cylinders 300
Trans-Pyrenean railways 226
Spans, tenders for, in British India 485
Spelter, tenders for, in Italy 201
Spirits, amended customs and excise duties on, in Mauritius 219
„ new duties on, in Gold Coast 26–7
Stationery, opening for, in Servia 587
Statistical abstract for British Colonies, Possessions, and Protectorates, 1889 to 1903. *Review* 45
„ „ „ Empire, 1899 to 1903. *Review* ... 431–2

Digitized by Google

Page

Statistical tables:
- Cape Colony, trade statistics 157–8, 497–8, 615
- Foreign countries and British possessions, trade of ... 67–8, 304–05, 592–3
- Natal, trade statistics 456–8, 537–8
- Orange River Colony, trade statistics 69, 594
- Transvaal, trade statistics 110, 303–04, 499–500
- United Kingdom:
  - Agricultural produce, imports of ... 42–3, 88, 137, 186, 238, 285, 331, 381, 430, 475, 525, 572, 619
  - Bankruptcy, England and Wales 138–9, 333–4, 476–7
  - Corn prices 41, 87, 136, 185, 237, 284, 330, 380, 429, 474, 524, 571, 618
  - Cotton returns ... 41, 86–7, 136, 185, 237, 283–4, 330, 380, 429, 473–4, 524, 571, 618
  - Emigration 89, 286, 478
  - Fisheries 132, 375, 522
  - Foreign trade in December, and the year, 1904 60–67
  - " " January, 1905 254–8
  - " " February, 1905 447–54
  - Immigration, alien 90, 332, 526
- United States of America: Cotton goods, exports of ... 81–2, 425, 518–19

Steam roller, opening for, in Spain 585
Steam rollers, opening for, in Cape Colony 488
Steamship services, &c. *See Shipping.*
Steel. *See Iron and steel.*
Stone crushers, opening for, in France 55–6
Straits Settlements:
- Exports in 1904 469
- Standard for local time, adoption of 469
- Tariff: Straits dollar, prohibition of exportation of 461

Straw, paillasse, tenders for, in United Kingdom 436
Street improvement, tenders for, in Spain 299
Subsidies. (*See also Bounties*):
- Austria-Hungary: Subsidised steamship line to Central and South America 30

Sugar:
- British India: Sugar certificates, tariff regulations 502
- Cape Colony: Bounty-fed sugar, special import duties 514
- Egypt: Valuation tariff for sugars 269
- Germany:
  - Candied sugar manufacturers, formation of society of ... 37
  - Sugar production 563
- Hong Kong: Sugar Convention Ordinance, 1904 408
- Madeira: Hinton-Naudet process for manufacture of sugar ... 233
- Natal: Bounty-fed sugar, special duties on importation of ... 406–07
- Netherlands: Import duty on certain goods containing sugar ... 600
- St. Christopher-Nevis: Continuation of export duties on sugar ... 545
- San Domingo: Reduction of import duties on sugar and sugared products 225
- Sugar Convention, further findings of the Permanent Commission. *Review* 288
- United Kingdom:
  - Dominican sugar, revocation of prohibition of importation ... 259
  - Sugar from Spain, importation prohibited 596

Sulphur trade of Sicily 423
Sulphuric ether for manufacture of photographic paper, free admission into Netherlands 120
Sumach trade in Italy, commission to report on 568
Sumatra oil at Foochow 81
Surgical instruments, opening for, in Spain... 8
Sweden:
- Opening for:
  - Agricultural implements and machinery 394
  - Marine motors 393

Digitized by Google

Sweden (*continued*): Page
Tenders:
Coal ... 55, 246–7, 293, 582
Cotton waste 151
Creosote oil 247
Gas oil 393
Oils, &c. 151
Piping 489
Rails, &c. 489
Switchboards, &c., tenders for, in Transvaal 581–2
Switzerland:
Automobile and cycle exhibition 536
Commercial travellers in 1904 428
Freight charges from London to Basle 227
Opening for:
Electric railway construction 7, 56
Railway construction 56, 342–3
Tariff: Commercial treaty with Italy 222
Tenders for bridge construction 105
Syrens, lighthouse, opening for, in Spain 535

Table Bay. *See Africa, South—Cape Colony.*
Tables, dining-room, opening for in Australia 148
Tahiti. *See France.*
Tangier. *See Africa, Morocco.*
Tare rates in Germany, alteration in 410
Tariff changes and Customs regulations:
Africa, South 118
Argentine Republic 28, 273, 416–18, 512–13
Australian Commonwealth 70, 218, 266–8, 356–7, 461, 596–7
Austria-Hungary 367
Barbados 599
Belgium 73, 506
Brazil 548
British Central Africa Protectorate 358
" East " " 407
British Guiana 598
British India 169–73, 177–8, 216–17, 259–61, 306–12, 353–4, 502
Canada 14–26, 262–6, 354–6
Canary Islands 28
Cape Colony 72, 218, 544
Ceylon 502
Colombia 225
Cuba 121, 223–5, 547
Egypt 119–20, 269, 317, 506
Foreign Import Duties, 1904. *Review.* 239–40
France 74, 318, 410, 507
Algeria 75
French Ivory Coast 318
Indo-China 270
Gambia 502–03
Germany 410, 462, 546
Cameroons 220–21
Togoland 27–8
Gold Coast 26–7, 72, 313–16
Greece 506
Grenada 316–17, 503–04
Haiti 367
Hong Kong 408
Italy 121, 221, 222, 270–72, 318–20, 359–66, 410–13, 507–11, 601–2, 603

Digitized by Google

Tariff changes and Customs regulations (*continued*): Page
Jamaica ... 407–08
Japan ... 462, 548–54, 603, 606–09
Mauritius ... 118–19, 219, 317
Mexico ... 547
Montserrat ... 504–05
Natal ... 174, 406–07, 597
Netherlands ... 120, 506, 600
New Zealand ... 70–71, 357–8, 544–5, 597
Nicaragua ... 76, 605
Nigeria, Southern ... 599
Orange River Colony ... 219
Ottoman Empire ... 175, 414, 603
Panama ... 28–9, 321
Perak ... 409
Philippines ... 548
Rhodesia, Southern ... 268
Roumania ... 76, 121
Russia ... 318, 545–6, 599–600
Finland ... 600
St. Christopher-Nevis ... 505, 545
San Domingo ... 225
Somaliland Protectorate ... 72
Spain ... 175, 270, 359, 462, 546–7
Straits Settlements ... 461
Switzerland ... 222
Transvaal ... 72
Trinidad and Tobago ... 220
Uganda Protectorate ... 407
United Kingdom ... 259, 596
United States of America ... 122–3, 222–3, 414–16, 511, 603–05
Venezuela ... 225, 273, 321
Tariff changes proposed:
Ceylon ... 353
France ... 211
Haiti ... 353
Japan ... 215
Persia ... 211, 306
Philippine Islands ... 114–17, 164–9, 211–15
"Tartaraline," duty on, in New Zealand ... 358
Tasmania. *See Australian Commonwealth.*
Tea in transit to Kerki *viâ* Batoum, &c. ... 599
Tea industry in Jamaica ... 130
" " the Caucasus ... 327–8
Technical Instruction, Agriculture, and Colonial Industries, proposed Department of, in Cape Colony ... 34–5
Telegraph material, tenders for, in Norway ... 103–4
" " " Spain ... 300
" posts, tenders for, in Spain ... 492
" wire, opening for, in Mexico ... 108
Telephone material, tenders for, in Norway ... 103–4
" " " Spain ... 300
Tenders:
Argentina:
Beacons ... 443
Buoys ... 443
Austria-Hungary:
Bridge construction ... 57
Building construction ... 57
Coal ... 442
Electric lighting ... 57
Paper ... 301
Paving works ... 57
Tramway construction ... 57
Waterworks ... 57

Digitized by Google

Tenders (*continued*): Page

Belgium:
- Bridge construction ... 104, 396–7
- Electric cranes ... 249, 491
- Electric lighting plant ... 343
- Fuel ... 583
- Heating apparatus ... 151–2
- Leather ... 105
- Paving work ... 440, 491
- Railway construction and plant ... 104, 201, 298, 343, 397, 491, 583
- Railway stores ... 7
- Ventilating apparatus ... 151–2
- Viaduct, metallic ... 583

Brazil:
- Railway stores ... 109
- Rolling stock ... 10, 108

British India:
- Bridges, deck ... 101
- Bridge-work ... 3, 100–01
- Cement ... 3
- Deck spans ... 485
- Lamps ... 101
- Leather belting... 101
- Paints, &c. ... 339
- Railway material and stores, 3–4, 51–3, 100–01, 197–8, 293–4, 389–90, 485–6, 531–2, 580
- Rolling stock ... 52–3
- Sleepers, creosoted pine ... 436
- Spans ... 485
- Wagons, ballast... 579
- Wrought iron material ... 580

Bulgaria: Waterworks ... 536

Cape Colony:
- Blankets and sleeping mats ... 295–6
- Castor oil ... 297
- Hardware ... 488
- Leather mail bags ... 296–7
- Sleepers, hardwood ... 438
- Timber ... 297, 438
- Uniforms, &c., for police... 533

Chile:
- Drainage works at Santiago, award of contract ... 329
- Harbour works ... 9, 154, 443

Denmark: Coal ... 6, 151, 489

Egypt:
- Grain sacks ... 341–2
- Police stores ... 103

France: Senegal: Electric light and power installation ... 534

Germany:
- Gas coal ... 248, 440, 490
- Various materials ... 248

Italy:
- Aqueduct construction ... 56,301
- Bunting ... 492–3
- Coal, gas and steam ... 106
- Coal sacks ... 492–3
- Fuel, patent ... 8
- Indiarubber fittings ... 344–5
- Iron bars, rivets, nuts and bolts ... 106
- Spelter ... 201
- Zinc ... 201

Lagos: Railway material ... 200

Natal:
- Building materials ... 392
- Cast-iron pipes, &c. ... 392

Digitized by Google

Tenders (*continued*): Page

Netherlands:
- Bridge material ... 6–7
- Coal ... 342, 490
- Ironwork ... 6–7
- Railway material ... 6–7, 395–6, 490
- „ reconstruction work ... 396

Norway:
- Bronze wire ... 394
- Coal and briquettes ... 394–5
- Coal, engine ... 395, 439
- Fence wire, netting and posts ... 200–01, 247
- Telegraph and telephone material ... 103–4

Ottoman Empire: Litharge, purchase of ... 251

Panama: Public building and lighthouse construction ... 536

Portugal: Metallic bridgework ... 584

Queensland: Rails and fish-plates ... 53

Roumania:
- Benzine ... 107
- Brass wire ... 398–9
- Cigarette paper ... 201
- Colza oil ... 107
- Conditions governing State Monopoly contracts ... 301
- Copper wire ... 398–9
- Insulators ... 398–9
- Shovels ... 107
- Tin boxes ... 154

Servia: Steam heating apparatus ... 587

South Australia: Railway materials ... 294–5

Spain:
- Brass chandeliers ... 8
- Coal ... 250
- Copper sulphate ... 343
- Cranes, platform, transhipment cars for ... 152
- Drainage works ... 299
- Electric lighting ... 299, 584
- „ tramway concession ... 249–50, 299, 397, 441, 585
- Exploitation of Spanish Colonies in West Africa ... 344, 534–5
- Porcelain insulators ... 397–8
- Smokeless powder ingredients ... 152
- Street improvement ... 299
- Telegraph material ... 300
- „ posts ... 492
- Telephone material ... 300
- Tramway plant ... 441
- Zinc cylinders ... 300

Sweden:
- Coal ... 55, 246–7, 298, 582
- Cotton waste ... 151
- Creosote oil ... 247
- Gas oil ... 393
- Oils, &c. ... 151
- Piping ... 489
- Rails, &c. ... 489

Switzerland: Bridge construction ... 105

Transvaal:
- Electric arc lamps and lanterns ... 439
- „ lighting materials ... 488–9
- „ tramway materials ... 488–9
- Switchboards, &c. ... 581–2
- Tender Board regulations of the Central South African Railways 149

Uganda Protectorate: Galvanised wrought iron piping and fittings 246

Digitized by Google

Tenders (*continued*): Page
United Kingdom:
Army contracts: notice 196–7
Coal 244, 292–3
Forage and paillasse straw 436
Military school food supplies 243–4
United States of America: Panama Canal supplies ... 107–8, 400, 494
Thorium minerals in Ceylon 324
Ties, opening for, in Servia 153
Timber and wood pulp trade in Norway, bad prospect 469–70
„ sale of, in Archangel and Vologda 182
„ tenders for, in Cape Colony 297, 438
Tin boxes, tenders for, in Roumania 154
„ exports from Federated Malay States in 1904 517
„ industry of the United States of America 351–2
„ plates, opening for, in Italy 300
„ revised export duties on, in Perak 409
Tobacco grown in Jamaica, samples on view at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C. 465
„ increase of import duties, in Nicaragua 605
„ State monopoly of, in Ecuador 184
„ Virginia, direct importation into Trieste 616
Togoland. *See Germany.*
Tomato pack of Canada and the United States of America in 1904 ... 278
Tonnage, measurement of: departmental committee of enquiry ... 419
Trade marks, registration of, in Brazil 379
Tramway construction and plant, tenders for, in Austria-Hungary ... 57
„ „ „ „ Spain 441
„ steam, concession, opening for, in British India 390
„ „ „ „ Spain 343–4
Tramways and light railways (street and road) return. *Review* ... 383–4
Transvaal. *See Africa—South.*
Travellers, commercial, in Switzerland in 1904 428
Trieste. *See Austria-Hungary.*
Trinidad and Tobago. *See British West Indies.*
Truffle cultivation in Italy 565–6
Tunis. *See France.*
Turkey. *See Ottoman Empire.*

Uganda Protectorate. *See Africa.*
Uniforms, &c., for police, tenders for, in Cape Colony 533
United Kingdom:
Agricultural labourers, report on wages, earnings, and conditions of employment. *Review.* 383
Agricultural produce, imports of ... 42–3, 88, 137, 186, 238, 285, 331, 381, 430, 475, 525, 572, 619
Agricultural Returns (produce of crops) in 1904. *Review.* ... 528
„ statistics, Ireland, 1904. *Review.* 336
Bankruptcy statistics, England and Wales ... 138–9, 333–4, 476–7
Board of Trade Labour Gazette. *Review* ... 44, 91, 140, 187, 239, 287, 335, 382, 431, 479, 527, 573, 620
Boiler Explosions Act, enquiries under 420, 612
Chambers of Commerce, Association of, annual meeting of 180–81, 447
Coal supplies, final report of Royal Commission. *Review*... 240, 288, 574
Colonial and Indian Exhibition at the Crystal Palace ... 204
Corn prices ... 41, 87, 136, 185, 237, 284, 330, 380, 429, 474, 524, 571, 618
Cotton, imports of, grown in British colonies and possessions ... 60
„ returns ... 41, 86–7, 136, 185, 237, 283–4, 330, 380, 429, 473–4, 524, 571, 618
Emigration statistics 89, 286, 478

Digitized by Google

United Kingdom (*continued*): Page
Fishery statistics 132, 375, 522
Immigration, alien, statistics... ... ... 90, 332, 526
Labour market, state of, in December, 1904 131
" " January, 1905 374
" " February, 1905 567
Life assurance companies' return. *Review* 383
Mineral production 370–71
Railway accidents during the three months ending 30th September, 1904. *Review* 384
Steamship service between Dublin and Belfast and Ghent ... 515
" " " Liverpool and La Pallice 322
Tariff:
Dominican sugar, revocation of prohibition of importation ... 259
Sugar from Spain, importation prohibited 596
Tenders:
Army contracts notice 196–7
Coal 244, 292–3
Forage and paillasse straw 436
Military school supplies 243–4
Tonnage, measurement of: departmental committee of enquiry ... 419
Trade accounts, monthly, changes in 1905 444–6
" foreign, in December, and the year, 1904 60–67
" " January, 1905 254–8
" " February, 1905 447–54
" returns. *Review* ... 44, 91, 140, 187, 239, 287, 335, 382, 431, 479, 527, 573, 620
" with Italy 134
Tramways and light railways (street and road) return. *Review* ... 383–4
Weights and Measures, inspectors of 522
Wool trade statistics 230
United States of America:
Agricultural statistics of 1904 328
Alaska:
Coal beds 79–80
Fox raising 135
Seal catch for 1904 135
Baltimore: Ready-made clothing industry 518
Bauxite brick, process for manufacture of 127
Bessemer steel ingots and steel rails, production in 1904 424
Boll weevil commission of Texas, report of 36
California: Fruit output in 1904 466
Cotton goods, exports of 81–2, 425, 518–19
Creosote, British, importation of, into Galveston 464
Galveston, trade of, in 1904 378–9
Garnet, new source of 128
Gas, retort-coke and by-products in 1903 80–81
Gold production in 1904 229
Hawaii: Service of cargo boats with San Francisco 31
Mineral production in 1904 404–05
Open-hearth steel, production in 1904 613
Openings for:
Aniline dyes 302
Gas producers for glass furnaces 252
Glass manufacturing machinery 203
Panama Canal Zone: Tenders for canal supplies ... 107–8, 400, 494
Philippine Islands:
"Abaca" (Manila hemp) industry 178
Proposed new railways 30–31
Railway material, opening for 400–01
Tariff:
New Customs tariff 548
Proposed revision 114–17, 164–9, 211–15
Pig-iron production in 1904 372–3

Digitized by Google

United States of America (*continued*): Page
Railways:
American Railway Association 323
New railways in 1904 274
Output of cars and locomotives in 1904 274–5
Permanent way of United States railways 322
Railway clearing-house 322
" rates for goods 322
St. Louis exhibition... 10
Service of cargo boats to Hawaii 31
Silver production in 1904 229
Steamship line between New York and British Honduras ... 556
" " " French ports 227
" " " Venezuelan ports... ... 275
Tariff:
Agreement with Panama 28–9
Customs decisions 122–3, 222–3, 414–15, 603–05
Flour made from mixed American and foreign wheat, drawback on 511
Flour made wholly from imported wheat, drawback on ... 605
Food products, imported, regulations respecting labelling of ... 414
Petroleum, &c., countervailing duty on 416
Tin industry 351–2
Tomato pack in 1904 278
Uruguay:
Customs receipts 379
Frozen meat establishment, opening of 379
Port works at Monte Video 556
Trade, first half of 1904 183–4
Wire fencing, opening for 346

Vehicles, certain articles for, admitted free of duty into Australia ... 461
Venezuela:
Steamship service with United States of America 275
Tariff:
Cigarette paper, importation prohibited 321
Duty-free, admission of certain cereals 225
Medicines, patent, restrictions on sale of 273
Ventilating apparatus, tenders for, in Belgium 151–2
Viaduct, metallic, tenders for construction of, in Belgium 583
Victoria. *See Australian Commonwealth.*

Wagons, ballast, tenders for, in British India 579
Warehouse construction, opening for, in Servia 399
Warships, Russian, conference to obtain restriction of orders to native industry 126–7
Water meters, opening for, in Spain 344
" power plant. *See Hydro-electric plant.*
" works, opening for, in Brazil 253
" " " Canada 532
" " " Cape Colony 102, 149, 439
" " " French India 492
" " " Italy 442
" " " Servia 399
" " " Spain 250, 344
" " tenders for, in Austria-Hungary 57
" " " Bulgaria 536
Weighing machines, automatic, opening for, in Argentina 401
Weights and measures, inspectors of, in United Kingdom 522
West River (China), proposed new regulations of trade 472

Digitized by Google

Page
Wharf construction, opening for, in Cuba 536
Wharfage charges at ports in Victoria, revised scale of 369
" dues, new, at Alexandria 269
" " reduced in the Gold Coast 610
Wheat crop in Japan 37
" " New South Wales 278
Wheels and axles, tenders for, in British India 4
Wine and beer licences in Gold Coast 72
Wines, amended Customs and excise duties on, in Mauritius 219
Wire fencing, opening for, in Uruguay 346
Wood pulp trade in Norway, bad prospect 469–70
Wool clip in New Zealand 34
" estimated production in the world in 1903 209
" facilities for shipping, in New South Wales 555
" trade statistics of the United Kingdom 230
World's gold production in 1904 229
" quicksilver production 593
" wool production in 1903 209

Yarns, opening for, in Italy 300

Zinc cylinders, tenders for, in Spain 300
" tenders for, in Italy 201

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Title to vol 47

Vol. XLVIII. No. 423.

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THE Board of Trade Journal

(With which is incorporated the "Imperial Institute Journal.")

Edited by the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

JANUARY 5, 1905.

	PAGE.
OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE	3
COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE ... AGENTS IN THE COLONIES.	11
BRITISH TRADE ABROAD (BRAZIL, MEXICO)	11
LEASE OF CROWN LAND FOR COTTON AND RUBBER CULTIVATION IN CEYLON	12
TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS	14
SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT	30
MINERALS, METALS, AND MACHINERY	32
YARNS AND TEXTILES	33
AGRICULTURE	34
MISCELLANEOUS	37
STATISTICAL TABLES	41
GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS (BOARD OF TRADE*, FOREIGN OFFICE, COLONIAL OFFICE, &c.)	44

INDEX TO VOLUME XLVII.

For list of contents in detail see p. vii. *of Advertisements.*

* *For list of principal publications of Board of Trade see p.* v. *of Advertisements.*

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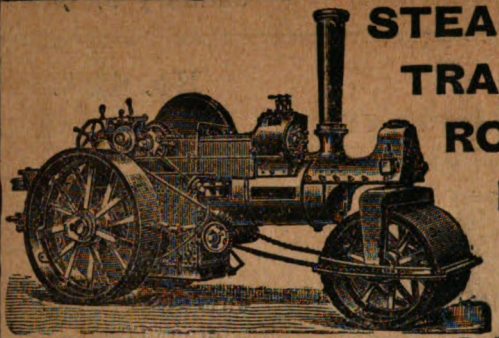

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The drawings may be seen at the Engineer's Office.

Sealed tenders, on the forms supplied, to be sent in addressed to the Town Clerk, Chippenham, Wilts, not later than 10 o'clock in the morning of Tuesday, the 10th day of January, 1905, and endorsed "Tender for Chippenham Waterworks Extensions."

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender."

FRANCIS H. PHILLIPS,
Town Clerk.

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Plans and specifications may be seen and quantities and forms of tender may be obtained after January 3rd, 1905, from the Engineer for the Works, Mr. C. L. Whitehead, C.E., Hollings Mill Lane, Sowerby Bridge, Yorks, on payment of a £10 Bank of England note, which will be returned on receipt of a *bonâ fide* tender, and of the conditions, specification and fully-priced bill of quantities. If the tender is withdrawn the deposit will be forfeited.

Sealed tenders, upon the forms, and in the envelopes supplied, to be sent in to the undersigned on or before January 28th, 1905.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender, and persons tendering do so at their own cost.

R. W. EVANS,
Clerk to the Council.

Commercial Bank Chambers, Halifax,
December 23rd, 1904.

The Engineer will meet contractors at Council Offices, Sowerby Bridge, at 1.30 p.m., on following days, January 6th, 9th, 11th, 13th, 16th, 18th and 20th to show them over the works.

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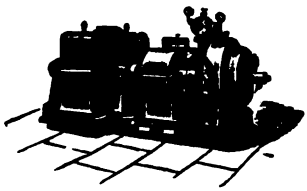

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140 ft. of 9 in. Sewer.

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Tenders, endorsed "Tender for Howard and Morgan roads," must be delivered to me not later than 3 o'clock on Tuesday, the 10th day of January, 1905.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

(By order)
FRED. H. NORMAN,
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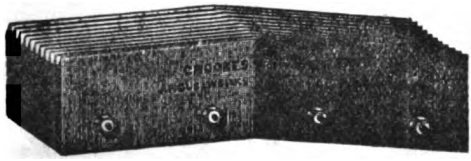

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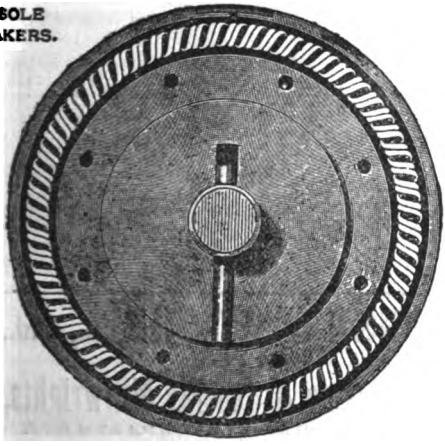

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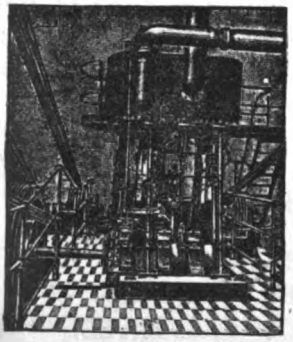

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OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH; or,
EDWARD PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

I.—ANNUAL PUBLICATIONS:—

Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions for the Year 1903 compared with the four preceding years. Volume I. [Cd. 2043/04.] Price 7s. 1d. Volume II. [Cd. 2081/04.] Price 5s.

Annual Statement of the Navigation and Shipping of the United Kingdom for the Year 1903. [Cd. 2122/04.] Price 3s. 2d.

Bankruptcy. Report for the Year 1903. [312/04.] Price 9d.

Coal Exports for 1903. [96/1904.] Price 3½d.

Coal Tables.—Statistical Tables and Report relating to Coal and Petroleum Production in the Principal Countries of the World, 1883—1903. [295/04.] Price 5½d.

Colonial Import Duties Return, 1904. [Cd. 2185/04.] Price 2s. 1d.

Companies (Winding Up). Thirteenth Annual Report. [311/1904.] **Price 6d.**

Emigration and Immigration.—Statistical Tables and Report, 1903. **[145/04.] Price 8d.**

Extracts from Diplomatic and Consular Reports. Coal. [343.] **Price 8d.**

Foreign Import Duties Return. [Cd. 1735/03.] Price 1s. 11d.

Index to Consular Reports, 1903. [Cd. 2148.] Price 1s.

Iron and Steel, 1903. Statistical Tables. [244/1904. [Price 3d.

Labour Department.—Ninth Annual Abstract of Labour Statistics of the United Kingdom. 1901—02. [Cd. 1755/03.] Price 1s.

Labour Department.—Changes in Wages and Hours of Labour. [Cd. 2199/04.] **Price 7d.**

Labour Department.—Report by the Chief Labour Correspondent on the Strikes and Lock-outs of 1903, with Statistical Tables. [Cd. 2112/04.] Price 7d.

Life Assurance Companies' Return, 1903. [34/1904.] Price 3s. 4d.

Patent Office.—Report for the Year 1903. [178/04.] Price 5½d.

Railway Returns for the United Kingdom, 1903. [Cd. 2193/04.] **Price 1s. 4d.**

Shipping Casualties—Abstracts of Returns of Shipping Casualties on or near the Coasts of the United Kingdom, 1902-03 (with Charts and Appendices). [Cd. 2212/04.] **Price 4s. 7d.**

Statistical Abstract for the United Kingdom. 1889-1903. [Cd. 2192/1904.] **Price 1s. 3d.**

Statistical Abstract for the Colonies. 1889-1903. [Cd. 1912/04.] **Price 1s. 10d.**

Statistical Abstract for Foreign Countries. 1892 to 1901-02. [Cd. 2202/04.] **Price 1s. 6d.**

Statistical Tables relating to Colonial and other Possessions of the United Kingdom. Part XXVI. 1901. [Cd. 1728-03.] Price 6s. 4d.

Tables showing the Progress of Merchant Shipping in the United Kingdom and the principal maritime countries, 1903. [294/1904.] Price 9d.

Tramways and Light Railways (Street and Road) Return. [324/1904.] **Price 7d.**

II.—MONTHLY RETURNS—

Accounts relating to Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for each month during the Year. November, 1904. [25.X/1904.] Price 1s.

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III.—OCCASIONAL RETURNS:—

Alcoholic Beverages.—Production and Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages (Wine, Beer, and Spirits) in the various European Countries and United States. **[335/1901.] Price 10d.**

British and Foreign Trade and Industry Memoranda, Statistical Tables and Charts. [Cd. 1761/1903.] Price 3s. 6d.

British and Foreign Trade and Industry. Second Series of Memoranda, Statistical Tables and Charts. [Cd. 2337.] Price 3s. 6d.

British Colonies (Duties on Imports). No. 299/03. Price ½d.

Canada (Preferential Tariff for Goods from the United Kingdom). **310/03. Price ½d.**

Certificates of Origin. Memorandum. [Cd. 1446/03.] Price 3d.

Commercial Mission to South Africa.—Report from the Special Commissioner appointed by the Board of Trade. [Cd. 1844/03.] Price 1s. 6d.

Commercial Mission to South America.—Reports from the Special Commissioner appointed by the Board of Trade. [C. 9100/98.] Price 4d. [C. 9160/98.] **Price 3d. [C. 9161/99.] Price 3d.**

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Commercial Travellers. Memorandum. [Cd. 1961.] Price 3d.

Conciliation (Trades Disputes) Act, 1896. Fourth Report. **[Cd. 1846/03.] Price 6d.**

Continental Free Ports. Return. 344. Price 2½d.

Exports from the United Kingdom of Woollen and Cotton Goods and Cutlery in 1877, 1882, 1887, &c., and 1902. [327/03.] Price ½d.

Food Supplies (Imported) Return. [179/03.] Price 4½d.

Imports and Exports of United Kingdom by Groups of Countries. **[214/1903.] Price ½d.**

Labour Department.—Report by the Chief Labour Correspondent on Trade Unions in 1901, with Comparative Statistics, [Cd. 1348/02.] Price 11½d.

Memorandum on the comparative Statistics of Population, Industry and Commerce of the United Kingdom and some leading Foreign Countries. [Cd. 1199/1902.] **Price 5½d.**

Preferential Trade Return, showing the advantages granted to other countries in States where British trade does not enjoy most-favoured-nation treatment. [329/1903.] **Price 1½d.**

Report to the Board of Trade by the Advisory Committee on Commercial Intelligence, with reference to their Proceedings. [Cd. 2,044/04.] Price 4½d.

Tea and Coffee.—Statement showing the Imports of Tea and Coffee into the principal Countries of Europe, the United States, and British Colonies. **[363/1902.] Price 6d.**

Trade between the United Kingdom, Canada and Germany. Return. **[328/1903.] Price 4d.**

Trade of the United Kingdom with Germany. [131.] Price 1½d.

Trade of British Colonies with Foreign Countries. [110/1904.] **Price 2d.**

Trade (Colonies and United Kingdom). Return. [262/03.] **Price 2d.**

Trade of British Possessions. Statement during the Year 1901. **[Cd. 1638/03.] Price 1d.**

Unemployed in Foreign Countries. Report. [Cd. 2304.] Price 1s.

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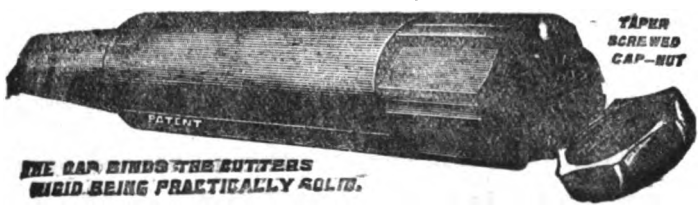

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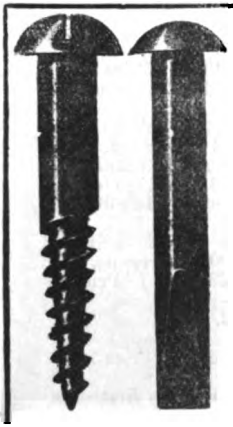

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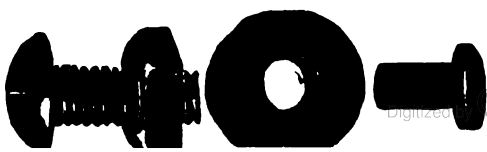

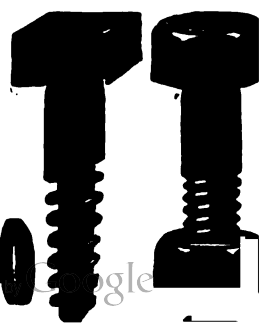

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Board of Trade Journal.

JANUARY 5TH, 1905.

CONTENTS.

PAGE

Openings for British Trade 3

British Colonies, &c.:—

British India:—

Tenders for Bridgework, Cement, &c.
" " Railway Stores.
" " Steel Material, Wheels and Axles, &c.

Ceylon.—Lease of Crown Land for Cotton and Rubber Cultivation.

Canada.—Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

Foreign Countries:—

Openings for Trade in Egypt, Russia, Finland, Denmark, Netherlands, Germany, Belgium, Switzerland, Spain, Italy, Austria-Hungary—Germany, Mexico, Chile and Brazil.

Exhibition:—St. Louis.

Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade 11

Agents in the Colonies.

British Trade Abroad (Brazil, Mexico) 11

Lease of Crown Land for Cotton and Rubber Cultivation in Ceylon ... 12

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations 14

Canada. Gold Coast. Togoland. Canary Islands. Argentina. Panama.

Shipping and Transport 30

Addition to Dock Dues at Table Bay. Subsidised S.S. Line between Trieste and Central and South America. Proposed New Railways in the Philippines. New Fast Service of Cargo Boats between Honolulu and San Francisco. Damage to the Costa Rica Railway.

Minerals, Metals, and Machinery 32

New Mineral District in Quebec. Iron Ore no longer Exported from Elba.

Yarns and Textiles 33

Cotton Spinning and Weaving in India. Artificial Silk in Mexico.

Agriculture... 34

New Zealand Wool Clip. Proposed Department of Agriculture, Colonial Industries, and Technical Instruction in Cape Colony. Russian Harvest of 1904. Export of Grain from Odessa. Report of the Texas Boll Weevil Commission. Japanese Wheat Crop.

Miscellaneous 37

Formation of Society of German Candied Sugar Manufacturers. Regulation as to Sale of Coffee in Belgium. New Mexican Monetary Law. Denatured Alcohol Freed from Taxation in Peru. Law for the Further Issue of Paper Money in Colombia.

Statistical Tables... 41

Cotton Returns.
Corn Prices.
Imports of Agricultural Produce (Two weeks).

Government Publications 44

Board of Trade Returns and Labour Gazette. Notes of Foreign and Colonial Office Reports, also of certain other Government Publications having a bearing upon trade issued during the week. List of Foreign Office Reports arranged geographically, also a list of Colonial Office Reports issued during the year.

Index to Volume XLVII.

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THE

Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. XLVIII.] January 5, 1905. [No. 423.

In a notice on p. 50 will be found a statement of the objects and work of the **Commercial Intelligence Branch** of the Board of Trade.

The Branch has been moved from 50, Parliament Street to 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

"Advantage, London" is the registered telegraphic address of the Branch.

The Temporary Enquiry Office, hitherto at 49, Eastcheap, E.C., has also been moved to 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

Attention is directed to the Sample Room at the latter address, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute or the Indian or Colonial Governments are exhibited from time to time. At present there are on view, among other things, the samples sent home by Mr. H. W. Maclean, illustrating his report on trade in Persia, and samples of silk fabrics accompanying Consul-General Hosie's report on the Province of Ssuch'uan.

The following special trade enquiry offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.	Queensland.
Dominion of Canada.	Cape of Good Hope.

(See "Board of Trade Journal," 15th December, pp. 488-9, or 22nd December, p. 541.)

INFORMATION ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

Information on the subjects named in the notice on the cover will be found in the following Board of Trade publications, obtainable in London upon application to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W., and their Sub-Agents, Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, at the prices named, viz.:—

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1 "Board of Trade Journal," 3rd September, 1903, pp. 448-61, 5th May, 1904, p. 216, 4th August, 1904, p. 212, and 10th November, pp. 265-6, at 1*d.* per number.

2, 3, 4, 5 Statistical Abstract for the United Kingdom, 51st number (Cd. 2,192), at 1*s.* 3*d.* ... ... pp. 28/29; p. 12; pp. 176/191; pp. 57/157

5 Monthly Accounts relating to Trade and Navigation (25/X.) at 1*s.*
Annual Statement of Trade, 1903. Vol. I. (Cd. 2,043) at 7*s.* 1*d.* ... pp. 166 *et seq.*
Annual Statement of Trade, 1903. Vol. II. (Cd. 2,081) at 5*s.* ... ... pp. 177/453

6, 7 Annual Abstract of Labour Statistics, 9th No. (Cd. 1,755) at 1*s.* ... pp. 176/182; pp. 34/72

7 Report on Changes in Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour (Cd. 2,199), at 7*d.*

8 Colonial Import Duties Return (Cd. 2,185) 2*s.* 1*d.*

9 Canada (Preferential Tariff for goods from the United Kingdom), No. 310, at ½*d.*

10 Statistical Abstract for the Colonial and other Possessions of the United Kingdom, 41st No. (Cd. 1,912) 1*s.* 10*d.* pp. 38/243

10 Trade (Colonies & the United Kingdom), No. 262, 2*d.*
Trade (Colonies and Foreign Countries) No. 110, 2*d.*

11 Foreign Import Duties Return (Cd. 1,735) at 1*s.* 11*d.*

12 Statistical Abstract for the principal and other foreign countries, 30th number (Cd. 2,202) at 1*s.* 6*d.* ... pp. 44/217

13 Trade between the United Kingdom and Germany (131) at 1½*d.*

14 Memorandum on the comparative Statistics of Population, Industry, and Commerce in the United Kingdom and some leading foreign countries (Cd. 1,199) at 5½*d.*

15 British and Foreign Trade and Industry. Memoranda, Statistical Tables and Charts (Cd. 1,761) at 3*s.* 6*d.*
British and Foreign Trade and Industry (Second Series). Second Series of Memoranda, Statistical Tables and Charts (Cd. 2,337) at 3*s.* 6*d.*

16 Naval Expenditure and Mercantile Marine (Great Britain, &c.) (284) at 1*d.*

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OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

BRITISH INDIA.

Bridgework, Cement, &c.

The Board of Directors of the Burma Railways Company, Limited, are prepared to receive tenders for the following:—

(*a*) Bridgework, 150 ft. spans, for Pegu Moulmein extension.

(*b*) Bridgework, 150 ft. spans, for Henzada Kyangin extension.

(*c*) Bridgework, 30 ft. spans, for Main Line.

(*d*) Pillars, posts, &c., for fencing, for Pegu Moulmein extension.

(*e*) Pillars, posts, &c., for fencing, for Henzada Kyangin extension.

(*f*) Eye bolts and strand wire for Henzada Kyangin extension.

(*g*) Eye bolts and strand wire for Pegu Moulmein extension.

(*h*) Eye bolts and strand wire for Main Line.

(*i*) Portland cement for Main Line.

(*k*) Portland cement for Pegu Moulmein extension.

(*l*) Portland cement for Henzada Kyangin extension.

Specifications and forms of tender can be obtained at the Company's Offices, 76, Gresham House, Old Broad Street, E.C.

For specification (*a*) a fee of 30*s*. will be charged; for specifications (*b*) to (*h*) a fee of 20*s*. each will be charged; and for specifications (*i*), (*k*), (*l*) a fee of 10*s*. each will be charged, which fees will not be returned.

Tenders, enclosed in sealed envelopes and marked "Tender for Bridgework," or as the case may be, must be delivered not later than noon on the undermentioned dates:—

Pillars, posts, &c.; Eye bolts and strand wire; and Portland cement, on 11th January, 1905;

Bridgework, on 12th January, 1905.

The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

Railway Stores.

The Directors of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply of the following stores, namely:—

Axles; brass and iron screws and split pins; brushes; brass sheets and copper pipes.

Specifications and forms of tender may be obtained at the Company's Offices, 48, Copthall Avenue, E.C., on payment of the fee for the specification, which payment will not be returned.

Tenders must be delivered in sealed envelopes, addressed to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Axles," or, as the case may be, not later than 11 a.m., on Thursday, the 12th January.

The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

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Openings for British Trade.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

Steel Material: Wheels and Axles.

The Board of Directors of the Southern Mahratta Railway Company, Limited, will be prepared to receive tenders for:—

1. Steel material,
2. 600 pairs wheels and axles,

as per specification which may be seen at the offices of the Company, 46, Queen Anne's Gate, Westminster, S.W. The charge for each specification is one guinea, which will not be returned.

Tenders must be sent in addressed to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Steel Material," or as the case may be, not later than 12 noon on Tuesday, the 17th January, 1905.

The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

CEYLON.

Lease of Crown Land for Cotton and Rubber Cultivation.

Attention is directed to the article on p. 12, giving particulars of an official announcement by the Ceylon Government regarding the lease of Crown land in Ceylon for cotton and rubber cultivation.

CANADA.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following were among the recent enquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the **Canadian Government Offices, Victoria Street, S.W.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—A London firm interested in the colonial export trade desire to communicate with Canadian manufacturers and shippers of cheese and butter, canned or potted, and in tins.

Enquiry is again made for names and addresses of actual manufacturers in Canada of wooden plugs or shives, by persons able to import them in considerable quantities.

A manufacturers' agent wishes to hear from Canadian manufacturers of hardware, enamelled goods, woodenware, boots and shoes, and other articles requiring representation in Great Britain. He also desires to appoint agents in Canada for the sale of boot protectors and lasts.

Canadian Enquiries.—A Canadian correspondent has asked to be placed in communication with vinegar and cider manufacturers in England.

A broker and commission merchant at a leading trade centre in Ontario desires the agency for an English firm in a position to ship spices on favourable terms.

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Openings for British Trade.

CANADA—*continued.*

A Montreal company dealing in plumbers' supplies wish to hear from leading English firms in the wholesale hardware and plumbers' supplies trade, and to have catalogues.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, Victoria Street, S.W.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following trade enquiries have been received at the Canadian Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., whence further information regarding them may be obtained :—

Home Enquiry.—A correspondent possessing considerable experience in drapery, clothing, and tailoring trades is about to establish himself in Canada, and would like to secure a few United Kingdom agencies in these lines.

Canadian Enquiry.—A Canadian manufacturing company ask to be placed in communication with United Kingdom manufacturers and shippers of "*blanc-fixe.*"

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

EGYPT.

Electric Lighting Materials.

The Egyptian "Journal Officiel" of 19th December publishes two supplements, (1) containing the text of a contract between the Municipality of Mansourah and a British Company (The Mansourah Electric Supply Company) for the establishment of a system of electric light at Mansourah; and (2) specification relating to the concession of the electric lighting of Helouan by agreement between the Local Authorities and the Metropolitan and Cairo-Helouan Railway Company, Limited.

The "Journal" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

RUSSIA.

Rails.

The British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. Henry Cooke), reports that, according to the "Commercial and Industrial Gazette" (St. Petersburg), in view of the increased traffic, more especially military, along the Siberian Railway, the Ministry of Ways and Communications has decided to lay new rails along almost the whole extent of the line. To this end a Commission will be appointed to survey the line carefully and draw up an estimate of the work necessary, which will be so carried out as not to interfere with regular traffic.

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Openings for British Trade.

RUSSIA—FINLAND.

Harbour Construction.

The "Finland Gazette" states that the Director-General of Merchant Shipping in Finland is about to have several harbours of refuge constructed on the Baltic Coast. Provision has been made for these works in the latest Budget.

DENMARK.

Coal.

The "Berlingske Tidende" of 27th December, contains a notice calling for supplies of the following quantities of Welsh coal at the undermentioned ports in Denmark:—

Esbjerg, about 300 tons; Frederikshavn, about 300 tons: Korsor, about 200 tons: Holbaek, about 150 tons.

Conditions can be obtained from the Offices of the Royal Marine Dockyard, Copenhagen. Tenders must be sent in by mid-day, 18th January.

NETHERLANDS.

Ironwork, Bridge and Railway Material.

A despatch has been received from H.M. Consul at Amsterdam, reporting that on 25th January the Netherlands Minister for the Colonies will receive tenders for the supply of the following material:—

Contract 382.—Ironwork, with appurtenances, for water-reservoirs, standing water-cranes, closing apparatus and stand pipes for the State railways in Java.

Contract 383.—Soft steel for ditto.

Contract 384.—Zinced iron wire for ditto.

Contract 385.—Corrugated galvanised soft steel, with appurtenances, for ditto.

Contract LXXXI.—Soft steel for the State railways in Sumatra.

Contract LXXXII.—Corrugated galvanised soft steel, with appurtenances, for ditto.

Contract LXXXIII.—Soft steel sleepers, with appurtenances, for ditto.

Contract lit. P. 11.—The metal superstructure, with appurtenances, for 11 bridges for ordinary traffic for the civil public works in the Netherlands Indies.

Contract lit. Q. 11.—Light rails, with plates and bolts, for the exploitation of the Ombilin coalfield.

Contract lit. R. 11.—12,500 warm-rolled and zinced soft steel tirefonds, for ditto.

Contract lit. S. 11.—Corrugated galvanised plate iron, for ditto.

A copy of the several contracts may be obtained from Mart. Nijhoff, at The Hague, on payment of—

Fl. 6 (10*s.*) for Contract lit. P. 11.

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Fl. 2 (3*s.* 4*d.*) for Contract 382.

Fl. 1 (1*s.* 8*d.*) for each of the Contracts 383, lit. Q. 11, lit. R. 11, and LXXXIII.

Fl. 0·50 (10*d.*) for each of the Contracts 384, 385, LXXXI., LXXXII. and lit. S. 11.

GERMANY.

Rolling Stock.

The United States Consul-General at Munich states that for some time past complaints have appeared in the German newspapers of the insufficiency of railway accommodation. The trains are mostly over-crowded and the present number of carriages is decidedly short. There is little doubt he adds, that the governments of the different German States will take steps to supply the necessary rolling stock which should afford manufacturers from other countries an opportunity to compete. Practically all the German railways are in the hands of the Government, and are controlled by a special Minister, to whom enquiries should be addressed.

BELGIUM.

Railway Stores.

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matérials" states that tenders will be opened at "La Bourse," Brussels, at 1 p.m. on the 11th January, for the supply of 101 lots of railway stores for the use of the Belgian State Railways. Specifications (*cahier des charges spécial No.* 600) may be obtained from the "Direction de la traction et du matériel des chemins de fer de l'Etat," 11, rue de Louvain, Brussels.

SWITZERLAND.

Electric Railway Construction.

The "Feuille Fédérale Suisse" of the 21st December publishes a Decree granting M. R. Vontobel, of Winterthour, and M. Charles Probst, of Lucerne, a concession for the construction of a narrow gauge electric railway from Meiringen to Gletsch. The total cost of the enterprise is estimated at 6,040,000 fr. (about 241,600*l.*), of which 490,000 fr. (about 19,600*l.*) is to be expended on rolling stock.

The "Feuille" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

SPAIN.

Rotary Presses for Copper Engraving.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 30th December publishes a Decree authorising the purchase, without the formalities of a public call for tenders, of two rotary presses for copper engraving, for use in the National Mint, Madrid.

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Openings for British Trade.

SPAIN—*continued.*

Surgical and Scientific Instruments: Medical Stores.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 31st December publishes a Decree authorising the Rector of the University of Barcelona to purchase, without the formalities of a public call for tenders, surgical and scientific instruments and medical stores to the value of 66,000 pesetas (about 1,958*l.*) for use in the School of Medicine and Hospital attached to that University.

Brass Chandeliers.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 1st January contains a notice emanating from the Municipality of Saragossa, inviting tenders, which must be received within 30 days of the publication of the notice, for the supply of 32 brass chandeliers, fitted partly for gas and partly for electricity, for use in the principal theatre of Saragossa. Tenders are to be sent to the Secretary of the Ayuntamiento, Saragossa. Local representation would be necessary.

The "Gacetas" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

ITALY.

Patent Fuel.

A despatch has been received from the British Vice-Consul at Spezia (Mr. E. M. de Garston), reporting that the Administration of the Military Hospitals of the First Maritime Department invite tenders for the supply of patent fuel (Cardiff coal in briquettes) to the estimated value of 1,080*l.*, for delivery during the period from 1st February, 1905, to 31st December, 1907.

The system upon which this contract will be awarded is that of the "single auction" (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 22nd December, pp. 536-7), and tenders will be received in the Board Room of the Directorate of Military Hygiene, Spezia, on 20th January, 1905, at 2 p.m. Tenders must indicate clearly a rebate of so much per cent. on the following prices, viz.:—

(*a*) If delivery is to be made at the contractor's own stores in Spezia, the upset price is calculated at 27 lire per ton of 1,000 kilos.

(*b*) If delivered and stacked into the stores belonging to the Directorate of Hygiene at Spezia, the upset price upon which reductions must be made is calculated at 29 lire per ton.

(*c*) If the briquettes are delivered into the stores of the Military Hospital at Portovenere, the starting price is fixed at 34 lire per ton.

A deposit of 2,700 lire (about 108*l.*) is required to qualify any tender, and the successful competitor would also have to deposit 24*l.* for the estimated expenses of the contract.

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Openings for British Trade.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY—GERMANY.

Establishment of Railway Communication between Troppau and Bauerwitz.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Ambassador at Vienna (Sir F. R. Plunkett, G.C.B.) enclosing a copy and translation of a Treaty concluded between Austria-Hungary and Germany, regarding the establishment of railway communication between Troppau and Bauerwitz.

This translation may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

MEXICO.

Hydro-Electric Plant.

The "Diario Oficial" of Mexico of 7th December, publishes an application by Señor Julio Jaume for the appropriation, for irrigation, and for industrial purposes, of 3,080 litres of water per second from the River Tambaque, State of San Luis Potosi.

The "Diario" of 9th December publishes applications by Señor Pedro Diaz Barreiro for the appropriation, for irrigation, and for industrial purposes, of 1,500 litres of water per second from the River Atoyac, State of Puebla; and by Señor Ituarte for the appropriation, for industrial purposes, of 1,500 litres of water per second from the Rivers Monte Alto and Los Tachos, State of Mexico.

The "Diarios" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

CHILE.

Harbour Works at Valparaiso.

With reference to the notices on p. 395 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 3rd March and p. 493 of the "Journal" of 17th March, 1904, relating to proposed improvements at the port of Valparaiso, the "Diario Oficial" of Chile of the 19th November publishes the text of a Law which has been approved by Congress, sanctioning the expenditure of 2,570,000*l.* on these works, and defining the conditions under which tenders will be received. A year's notice is to be given for such.

The "Diario" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

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Openings for British Trade.

BRAZIL.

Railway Material.

The "Diario Official" of Brazil of 4th December publishes a Decree transferring the lease of the railway from Paranaguá to Curityba, in the State of Paraná, from the Civil Engineer, Joãs Augusto de Araujo to the Civil Engineer, Carlos Joãs Frojd Westerman, subject to certain conditions set forth in the "Diario."

Rolling Stock.

The "Diario Official" of Brazil of 13th December contains a notice calling for tenders for the supply of reserve rolling stock to the Central Railway of Brazil, for use on the Northern and Lafayette narrow gauge line.

Tenders will be received on the 28th January at the offices of the Central Railway of Brazil, Rio de Janeiro, where specifications and drawings may be inspected. A deposit of 2,000 milreis (about 225*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Local representation is necessary.

The "Diarios" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

EXHIBITION.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

St. Louis Exhibition.

With reference to previous notices which have appeared from time to time in the "Board of Trade Journal" respecting the St. Louis Exhibition, a despatch has been addressed to the Foreign Office by His Majesty's Ambassador at Washington (Sir H. M. Durand, G.C.M.G.) upon the British sections at the Exhibition.

Sir H. M. Durand writes: "I think that His Majesty's Government has reason to be satisfied with the display made by Great Britain. The British exhibits were well housed, and attracted much attention. Though in many particulars they cannot be regarded as representative of the country, they are in some respects very good.

"The British Art Section was generally regarded as containing the best collection of pictures in the Exhibition. The Educational Section seemed to create general surprise. The Pottery was greatly admired, and was selling freely. The Jubilee Presents, which occupied a large separate gallery, were visited by a constant stream of people. The pavilions of the British Colonies and Possessions were also much visited, and the Indian Commissioner seemed greatly pleased with the success of his exhibit."

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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

AGENTS IN THE COLONIES.

With reference to the notice on p. 441 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 8th December last, the Board of Trade have been notified that the following officers have been charged with the duty of receiving and answering commercial enquiries which may be addressed to them either by the Commercial Intelligence Branch or by merchants and others who may seek advice:—

Newfoundland	The Assistant Collector of Customs, St. John's.
Cyprus	The Chief Secretary to the Government, Nicosia.

BRITISH TRADE ABROAD.

Brazil.—H.M. Consul-General at Rio de Janeiro (Mr. Arthur Chapman) remarks, in a recent despatch to the Foreign Office, upon the depressed state of business in Rio de Janeiro, the want of confidence, and the state of general discontent and unrest which exist in the country. He proceeds:—"At the present time, coffee prices are high, and rubber shipments are heavy, but this is temporary, and is perhaps the principal cause that keeps exchange steady. There is much discussion in the papers with regard to ways and means, but matters are often represented in a favourable light for the purpose of impressing foreign markets."

Taxation, he says, bears heavily on the people, and failures are frequent.

Mexico.—H.M. Consul in Mexico City has forwarded a note of the chief ports of the Republic on the Pacific, with some account of the districts which, so far as trade is concerned, are tributary to them and not to the Atlantic. This report may be seen by those interested at the office of the Commercial Intelligence Branch.

The following paragraphs are taken from Mr. Jerome's concluding remarks:—

"The Mexican merchant and planter requires not only to be visited by commercial travellers selling goods but by buyers, in other words, owing to the practice established by German, French, and Spanish houses, he is accustomed to exchange his produce for what he requires from abroad.

"Otherwise trade is done by cash against documents; good old-established houses do not like to be drawn on. Credit is usually on the Pacific Coast 90 days to six months. Bills, if not paid, *must be* presented and protested the day on which they fall due.

"Commercial travellers visiting Mexico must not be deterred by

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modest exteriors and absence of 'fixings' in mercantile offices in this country, some of the most important houses keeping up the old Spanish traditions of simplicity and studied avoidance of all display.

"Planters are, as a rule, merchants too, buying wholesale to retail to the population living on their estates, which, in very many cases, are as large as an English county.

"Very great care must be observed in fulfilling all the requirements of the Mexican Customs, as to proper weights, values, Consular invoice formalities.

"Enquiries as to trade matters should be addressed to the following:—

Mr. J. H. Packard, British Vice-Consul, Ensenada, Baja, California;

Mr. G. H. Lesser, British Vice-Consul, Guaymas, Sonora;

Mr. Robert Henderson, British Vice-Consul, Mazatlan, Sinaloa;

Mr. F. Parkinson, British Vice-Consul, Tepic;

Mr. R. Fernandez, British Vice-Consul, Acapulco, Guerrero;

Mr. S. W. Buchanan, British Vice-Consul, Salina Cruz, Oaxaca;

Mr. R. O. Stevenson, British Vice-Consul, Soconusco, Chiapas; and not to Mr. Jerome. H.M.'s Consul at Mexico City."

With regard to agricultural implements, the Consul makes reference to a report issued by the United States Department of Commerce and Labour, 1903, being Vol. XXVII. of the Special Consular Reports, entitled "Markets for Agricultural Implements and Vehicles." (Washington: D. C. Government Printing Office), p. 109.

LEASE OF CROWN LAND FOR COTTON AND RUBBER CULTIVATION IN CEYLON.

With reference to the notice published in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 15th December, pp. 510-11, the "Ceylon Government Gazette" of 9th December contains the official announcement regarding the lease of Crown land in Ceylon for cotton and rubber cultivation, from which the following particulars have been extracted:—

The Government of Ceylon, being anxious to promote the cultivation of cotton and rubber in Ceylon, are prepared for a limited time to consider applications for acquiring on lease on exceptionally favourable terms lands supposed to be suitable for those products.

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Lease of Crown Land for Cotton and Rubber Cultivation in Ceylon.

Such applications will be entertained only up to 1st July, 1905, and must be received in the Colonial Secretary's Office, Colombo, on or before that date. Thereafter land for cotton and rubber cultivation will be offered for public competition in the ordinary way.

Such applications must be in sealed envelopes labelled "Application for land for cotton or rubber cultivation," and addressed to the Colonial Secretary, Ceylon, or the Crown Agents for the Colonies in London.

The rent payable for lands not irrigated by tanks will be not less than 50 cents per acre per annum. And where water is supplied by irrigation a further rent of Rs. 2 per acre per annum will be payable for irrigable land.

Special arrangements will be made with reference to timber growing on the land, according to its value and proximity to a market.

Each application should state approximately the extent of the land applied for, and should describe the situation as accurately as possible. The application should be accompanied by a plan if the land has been surveyed, or by a sketch if it has not. The description and sketch should be sufficient to enable Government officers to identify the land.

It should also be stated how many acres the applicant is prepared to open per annum, the amount per acre per annum he is prepared to pay, and whether he is prepared to pay rent for the whole area from the time he is put in possession or only for the portions cultivated and to be cultivated during the year.

All applicants who are not residents in the Island must be represented there by an agent fully authorised by power of attorney to conduct and conclude the whole agreement; the attorney must also be in a position to make such deposits or payments as are required.

The full name and address of such agent must be entered in the application, together with particulars and a summary of the power of attorney.

The Government reserve absolutely the right of accepting or refusing any application without giving any reason therefor.

The conditions upon which leases will be granted (for a term of 50 years) are set forth in the "Gazette" which may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C. (any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p m., Saturdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

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TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

DOMINION OF CANADA.

New Customs Decisions affecting "Market Value" Regulations.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Colonial Office, a copy of an approved Minute of the Canadian Privy Council, submitting a report by the Minister of Customs upon the representations received from various Chambers of Commerce on the subject of the new Canadian Customs Regulations.

The following is a copy of the Report, *in extenso*, with enclosures:—

EXTRACT from a Report of the Committee of the Honourable the Privy Council approved by His Excellency the Administrator on the 7th December, 1904.

The Committee of the Privy Council have had under consideration despatch dated 4th November, 1904, from his Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, covering a Resolution adopted by the Incorporated Chamber of Commerce of Liverpool, on the subject of new Canadian Customs Regulations, and also covering a letter on the same subject from the Burnley and District Chamber of Commerce.

The Committee have also had under consideration a Report dated 30th November, 1904, from the Minister of Customs, to whom the said Despatch was referred in reference thereto.

The Committee concurring in the said Report submit the same for approval.

(Sd.) JOHN J. MCGEE,
Clerk of the Privy Council.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY
THE GOVERNOR GENERAL IN COUNCIL.

The undersigned, Minister of Customs, has the honour to acknowledge receipt of copy of Despatch from His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, addressed to Lord Minto, under date November 4th, 1904, covering a resolution adopted by the Incorporated Chamber of Commerce of Liverpool, on the subject of new Canadian Customs Regulations, and also covering a letter on the same subject from the Burnley and District Chamber of Commerce.

The said despatch, with its accompanying documents, has been carefully and seriously considered, and the Minister begs respectfully to submit the following observations in reference thereto:—

In the first place, it appears to him that while the resolution of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce is declared to be directed against what are termed the "New Canadian Customs Regulations," it, as a matter of fact, is also, to a large extent, directed

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

DOMINION OF CANADA—*continued.*

against the "Special Duty" legislation, under which, in part, the Regulations in question were promulgated.

So far as regards the legislation itself, it may be observed that the Government and Parliament of Canada declared it to be general in its application to all countries—no exception whatever in favour of any country having been made—and it follows that the Regulations must also be of universal application. The Minister does not deem it expedient or advisable in this submission to enter into a defence of the law, further than to say that it was no doubt considered by the Parliament of Canada to be in the best interests of the country. He would, however, specially invite attention to the fact that, under the authority of an Order-in-Council, a ruling has recently been given in respect of this Special Duty legislation, which, in his judgment, removes the strongest objection taken in the resolution of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce in paragraph 4 of such resolution. This ruling or decision provides, in effect, that Special Duty shall not be applicable in cases where goods have been purchased by importers in Canada in other countries, for future delivery, at the fair market value prevailing for home consumption in the country of purchase, at the time of purchase, but the market value of which, at the time of export to Canada, is higher than at the time of purchase; or, to put it in another way, it has been decided that the amount of any advance in the market value of goods which may take place between the time of their purchase abroad by the importer and the date of the exportation of the goods to Canada, shall not be subject to Special Duty. Attached hereto marked Appendix "A" is the full text of the decision.

The regulations in respect of invoices and the certification thereof, to which objection has been taken in the resolution now under consideration, are, in the opinion of the undersigned Minister, necessary to ensure proper administration of the existing Tariff and other Customs Laws of the Dominion, and although he has given very careful consideration to the objections that have been raised, he is unable to take the view that such regulations can (all the circumstances being considered) be fairly held to be embarrassing to exporters from Great Britain to Canada, or that they will have the effect of diminishing trade between the two countries. On the contrary, he is convinced from his knowledge of the matter, that, in practice, it will be found that not only will the Regulations result in better and more uniform Customs administration, but they will promote the best interests of the British trader.

To thoroughly understand the matter, it is necessary to examine into the nature of the Customs Laws under which the Customs Regulations are framed, and it is now proposed to state the Law as briefly as possible.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

DOMINION OF CANADA—*continued.*

In the first place then, it is provided by the Canadian Customs Act, Sections 58, 59 and following Sections, that, whenever any duty *ad valorem* is imposed on any goods imported into Canada, the value for duty shall be the fair market value thereof when sold in the ordinary course of trade, in like quantity and condition, and on the usual credit terms, for home consumption in the principal markets of the country whence, and at the time, when the same were exported directly to Canada.

It is also provided, in effect, by the Special Duty legislation passed at the last Session of the Canadian Parliament, that in respect of goods of a class or kind made or produced in Canada (whether subject to specific or *ad valorem* duties) if the selling price to the importer in Canada is less than the fair market value at which such goods are sold for home consumption in the country of export—according to the standard referred to in the last preceding paragraph—a Special Duty (except in certain cases) shall be paid, in addition to the ordinary duty.

It will be seen from the foregoing statements that, as regards all dutiable importations into Canada, two salient points of equal importance and significance have to be determined at the Customs (1) the actual selling price of the goods to the importer in Canada, and (2) the fair market value thereof prevailing for home consumption in the country of export, at the time the goods were shipped to Canada.

Now it is required by Statute, and very properly so, that the importer shall present at Customs an invoice showing the actual price at which he purchased the goods he imports, and he is further obliged to swear, *inter alia*, that the value for duty stated in any entry at Customs which he may make, is the fair market value of the goods when sold for home consumption in the country of export, as aforesaid. In other words, the importer, who is the only party to foreign trade transactions within the jurisdiction of Canada, has the legal onus placed upon him of making his Customs entries properly, in accordance with the standard laid down in the law. But while he is so charged or saddled with legal responsibility, it is recognised that, in the nature of things, he must in very many cases obtain assistance in the way of information from the exporter, to enable him to comply with the law. It will be apparent that the exporter is much better able than the importer, and indeed, is in the best possible position, to supply information as to the market value for home consumption in the country of export.

The foregoing being the legal requirements, what are the Regulations prescribed to give effect to them? They may be briefly summarized and explained as follows, so far as they concern exporters, viz.:—

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

DOMINION OF CANADA—*continued.*

1. It is required that the invoice of goods shipped to Canada shall show the selling price in one column, and the fair market value for home consumption in another column. Two copies of each invoice have to be supplied for Customs purposes. One of such invoices is retained at the Port of Entry and the other is sent to the headquarters of the Customs Department at Ottawa, to be checked, with the object of ensuring proper and uniform collection of the Revenue.

2. A Certificate, to be signed by the exporter or by a partner, official, or employee of the exporter, having knowledge of the facts, shall be endorsed on the invoice, certifying to the general correctness of the invoice; to the selling price; to the fair market value for home consumption; that no different invoice has been or will be furnished, and that no arrangement or understanding affecting the purchase price has been or will be made or entered into between the exporter and purchaser, or by anyone in behalf of either, except as shown in the invoice.

In respect of goods for entry under the *British Preferential Tariff*, a Certificate in addition to the foregoing has to be made, certifying as to the British origin and manufacture of the goods. A short Certificate under the provisions of the Surtax against German goods has also to be provided on all invoices.

All these certificates may, however, be amalgamated into one. Attached hereto, marked Appendix "B," is a form of combined Certificate, which may be used by British exporters in respect of Preferential goods, and marked "C" a form of combined Certificate for goods not entitled to the Preferential Tariff.

The Minister observes that in the Resolution of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce no objection is taken to the Preferential Tariff or German Surtax Certificates, and he believes it is no doubt recognised by British merchants and manufacturers that such Certificates are necessary, and further that they are in the interests of British trade. It is highly important that the benefits of the British Preferential Tariff should be confined to British countries, and it is also of importance that the law in respect of the Surtax on German goods should be given effect to. The Certificates are designed to accomplish both these objects.

It is respectfully submitted that the mode of invoicing and certification above referred to is justified by the nature of the Customs law, and also by the circumstances, and it is further submitted that the particulars to be certified to are such as should be within the knowledge of every exporter, except in cases where the goods exported are not sold for home consumption, which cases will be particularly referred to hereinafter. Strong objection has been taken to the requirement that the fair market value be certified by the exporter in his invoice, but, as has been previously argued, the

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

DOMINION OF CANADA—*continued.*

exporter to Canada is in the best possible position to furnish information as to the market value for home consumption in his own country, and it is surely not unreasonable that he should be asked to furnish such information in his invoice to his customer in Canada, in order that the latter may be thereby enabled to make truthfully the affidavit he is called upon by law to swear to in connection with the Customs entry of the goods he imports. It may be explained here that the object of the requirement that the fair market value for home consumption be stated in a separate column on the invoice is to impress upon the minds of exporters the importance of the information, and to guard against compliance in a perfunctory or matter of form way with the request for the information.

Looking at the practice of other countries similarly situated, the United States, for instance, the Customs Law of which, in respect of the value for duty of imported goods, is practically the same as that of Canada, it is found that that country has the advantage of a Consular system, by means of which market values are reported by United States Consuls to the Customs appraisers in that country, in connection with each importation. As the members of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce will no doubt be aware, under the United States Regulations, exporters of goods to that country must go to the United States Consul nearest to the point of shipment, and make an invoice and declaration in respect thereto, on prescribed forms. They are also required to pay fees to such Consuls in connection with each shipment. It is the duty of the Consuls to make a report as to the market value for home consumption in each case. Under this system the necessity for the certification by exporters of the home consumption value on their invoices is obviated, but in other respects the system causes work and inconvenience to exporters, to say nothing of the expense, which is an item of some importance. Canada not having any Consular system, has been obliged to adopt the regulations in question.

Referring specificially to the aforesaid Resolution of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, one or two points mentioned therein, and not covered by the foregoing explanation are worthy of special attention :—

First. As to the difficulty referred to in paragraph 2 of the Resolution, "in arriving at the home consumption values in all cases because many classes of goods are manufactured solely for export, and having no corresponding value for the home trade."

On this point the Minister would observe that it has been found in practice that such cases are rare and exceptional. When they do arise, it will be deemed a sufficient compliance with the regula-

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DOMINION OF CANADA—*continued.*

tions by the exporters if they make a statement on their Invoices, to the effect that the goods are not sold for home consumption, and if they, in addition, state an estimated value in the column for the fair market value. The certificate as to the market value will be held to be qualified by the estimate of value, and by the statement that the goods are not sold for home consumption. In determining values in cases of this character, the Department of Customs has due regard to all the circumstances and endeavours to be just and equitable. Usually, the value for duty can fairly be determined by ascertaining the total cost to produce the goods in condition ready for the market, including all expenses, and adding thereto the usual ratio of profit made on home consumption sales of similar lines of goods. This basis should be followed by exporters in arriving at the estimate of value to be stated by them on their Invoices as above mentioned.

Second. With regard to Clause 7 of the Resolution:—

In reply to the observations therein made the Minister invites close attention to the language of the Clause, and would point out that it is directed against any arrangement or understanding between the importer and exporter, or on behalf of either of them, *affecting the purchase price of the goods.* A commission or salary paid to agents of exporters, in Canada, by the exporters, with which the importer is in no way concerned and which has no bearing whatever on the full purchase price, need not be shown on the invoice.

Third. As to paragraph 6 of the said Resolution of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, which reads as follows:—

"Unscrupulous exporters, to avoid this 'special duty' may invoice their sales as consignments, Provision is made under the Regulations for dealing with such evasions, but is is difficult to see how the Canadian authorities can establish proof of fraud. They may take the course (which is within their discretion) of challenging all importations made as consignments, but that would be most vexatious and unfair to those merchants who do honestly consign."

In this connection the Minister would state that in the Regulations careful precaution is taken to guard against the evasion of special duty by unscrupulous dealers invoicing *their sales* as consignments. Goods which have been sold to Canada prior to shipment, and which may be improperly sent forward as consignments, would be properly subject to forfeiture, and the importer would be open to the severest penalties imposed for contravention of the Customs Laws. In respect of consigned goods the exporter is obliged to make a declaration attesting, *inter alia*, that none of the goods have been sold by or on behalf of the owner prior to shipment, and a similar declaration has to be made by the importer

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

DOMINION OF CANADA—*continued.*

before the Collector of Customs at the Port of entry in Canada on the entry of consigned goods.

Referring again to the statement made in the aforesaid resolution, namely:—"That while the intention of the new Canadian Customs Regulations is to discourage shipments to Canada from highly-protected countries of goods at prices below cost of production, the effect, by creating great practical difficulties, will be to materially reduce, if not stop, importations into Canada from the United Kingdom."

The Minister would state that, if the practice of selling goods for export at specially low prices be confined only to highly-protected countries, and if it be true, as claimed, that the British merchants do not, as a rule, sell abroad for less than they do at home, it is obvious that the proper administration of the Special Duty legislation in question, which will be rendered practicable under the operation of the aforesaid regulations, will be of advantage to British merchants who compete in the Canadian market with merchants and manufacturers of highly-protected countries.

In conclusion, the Minister would state that new Regulations in respect of the Customs Tariff, no matter how essential they may be, almost invariably occasion some difficulty and inconvenience to exporters at the outset. More or less friction appears to be then inevitable, but as exporters become more fully acquainted with the new requirements, it may be confidently anticipated that difficulties which now appear to their view will gradually disappear.

Attached hereto marked Appendix "D" is the full text of the Special Duty legislation, together with a statement giving the various decisions and regulations of a general nature interpreting the said legislation given so far.

The Minister respectfully recommends that the above submission, if approved, be made an Order-in-Council, and a copy thereof be forwarded to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies for transmission to the Liverpool and Burnley Chambers of Commerce, in answer to their resolutions.

The whole respectfully submitted.

(Signed) WM. PATTERSON,
Minister of Customs.

Department of Customs,
Ottawa, *November 30th*, 1904.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

DOMINION OF CANADA—*continued.*

APPENDIX "A."

Customs Department, Canada,
Ottawa, *22nd November*, 1904.

To Collectors of Customs:—

Advance in Market Value after purchase of goods by importer not subject to Special Duty.

The amount of any advance in the market value of goods between the time of their purchase by the importer and the date of their exportation to Canada shall not be subject to Special Duty after the 9th November, 1904, provided the goods have been exported in the usual course, and the actual date of purchase established to the satisfaction of the Collector by contracts or other sufficient documents produced for his inspection and attested to: Provided, however, in respect of goods subject to an *ad valorem* duty, that the ordinary duty shall be collected (as heretofore) on the fair market value of the goods as at the time of their direct exportation to Canada under the provisions of Section 58 of the Customs Act.

JOHN MCDOUGALD,
Commissioner of Customs.

APPENDIX "B."

Being form of combined certificate which may be used on invoices of goods for entry under the British Preferential Tariff.

I, (1).....hereby certify that I am (2).....of (3)..... the exporter(s) of the articles included in this invoice, and that I am duly authorised to make and sign this certificate on behalf of the said exporter(s).....

I have the means of knowing and I do hereby certify that this invoice from the said (4).....to (5)..... amounting to (6).....is true and correct; and that all the articles included in the said invoice are *bona fide* the produce or manufacture of one or more of the following countries, viz.:—(7).....
and that a substantial portion of the labour of one or more of such

(1) Name of person signing the certificate.
(2) Insert the words partner, manager, chief clerk or principal official, giving rank, as the case may be.
(3) Name and address of exporter or exporters.
(4) Name of exporter or exporters.
(5) Name of party or parties to whom articles invoiced.
(6) Insert in words at length the total value of the invoice.
(7) Names of the countries where the articles have been produced or manufactured, being countries entitled in Canada to the benefits of the British Preferential Tariff.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

DOMINION OF CANADA—*continued.*

countries has entered into the production of every manufactured article included in the said invoice to the extent in each article of not less than one-fourth of the value of every such article in its present condition ready for export to Canada.

That the said invoice contains a true and full statement showing the price actually paid or to be paid for the said goods, the actual quantity thereof, and all charges thereon.

That the said invoice also exhibits the fair market value of the said goods at the time and place of their direct exportation to Canada and as when sold at the same time and place in like quantity and condition for home consumption, in the principal markets of the country whence exported directly to Canada, without any discount or deduction for cash, or on account of any drawback or bounty, or on account of any royalty actually payable thereon or payable thereon when sold for home consumption but not payable when exported, or on account of the exportation thereof or for any especial consideration whatever;

That no different invoice of the goods mentioned in said invoice has been or will be furnished to any one; and

That no arrangement or understanding affecting the purchase price of the said goods has been or will be made or entered into between the said exporter and purchaser or by any one on behalf of either of them, either by way of discount, rebate, salary, compensation, or in any manner whatsoever other than as shown in the said invoice.

Whereas German goods are subject to a surtax in Canada, I certify that the chief value of none of the articles included in this invoice was produced in Germany.

Signature.....

Dated at.....
this .....day of.....
.....19.....

NOTE.—Exporters are carefully to observe the above instructions on the margin when making their Certificates on invoices.

APPENDIX "C."

Being form of combined Certificate that may be used on invoices of goods for entry under the General Tariff.

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify as follows:—

(1) That I am the (*a*).....exporter of the goods in the within invoice mentioned or described;

(2) That the said invoice is in all respects correct and true;

(3) That the said invoice contains a true and full statement

(*a*) Insert the word partner, manager, chief clerk, or principal official, giving rank as the case may be.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

DOMINION OF CANADA—*continued.*

showing the price actually paid or to be paid for the said goods, the actual quantity thereof, and all charges thereon;

(4) That the said invoice also exhibits the fair market value of the said goods at the time and place of their direct exportation to Canada and as when sold at the same time and place in like quantity and condition for home consumption, in the principal markets of the country whence exported directly to Canada, without any discount or deduction for cash, or on account of any drawback or bounty, or on account of any royalty actually payable thereon or payable thereon when sold for home consumption but not payable when exported, or on account of the exportation thereof or for any special consideration whatever;

(5) That no different invoice of the goods mentioned in said invoice has been or will be furnished to anyone; and

(6) That no arrangement or understanding affecting the purchase price of the said goods has been or will be made or entered into between the said exporter and purchaser or by anyone on behalf of either of them, either by way of discount, rebate, salary, compensation, or in any manner whatsoever other than as shown in the said invoice.

"Whereas, German goods are subject to surtax in Canada, I certify that none of the articles included in this invoice are the produce or manufacture of Germany, and that the chief value of none of said articles was produced in Germany—save and except all articles opposite which the word 'German' is written on this invoice."

(Signature).....

Dated at.....
this.....
day of.....
.....19.....

APPENDIX "D."

Being full text of Special Duty legislation, and decisions and regulations interpreting such regulation.

Sec. 19. Whenever it appears to the satisfaction of the Minister of Customs, or of any officer of Customs authorised to collect customs duties, that the export price or the actual selling price to the importer in Canada of any imported dutiable article, of a class or kind made or produced in Canada, is less than the fair market value thereof, as determined according to the basis of value for duty provided in *The Customs Act* in respect of imported goods subject to an *ad valorem* duty, such article shall, in addition to the duty otherwise established, be subject to a special duty of customs equal to the difference between such fair market value and such selling price:

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

DOMINION OF CANADA—*continued.*

Provided, however, that the special customs duty on any article shall not exceed one-half of the customs duty otherwise established in respect of the article, except in regard to the articles mentioned in items 224, 226, 228, and 231 in schedule "A" to *The Customs Tariff*, 1897, the special duty of Customs on which shall not exceed 15 per cent. *ad valorem*, nor more than the difference between the selling price and the fair market value of the article.

(2) The expression "export price" or "selling price" in this section shall be held to mean and include the exporter's price for the goods, exclusive of all charges thereon after their shipment from the place whence exported directly to Canada.

(3) This section shall apply to imported round rolled wire rods not over three-eighths of an inch in diameter, notwithstanding that such rods are on the Customs Free List: Provided, however, that the Special Duty of Customs on such wire rods shall not exceed 15 per cent. *ad valorem.*

(4) If at any time it appears to the satisfaction of the Governor in Council, on a report from the Minister of Customs, that the payment of the special duty by this section provided for is being evaded by the shipment of goods on consignment without sale prior to such shipment, the Governor-in-Council may in any case or class of cases authorise such action as is deemed necessary to collect on such goods or any of them the same special duty as if the goods had been sold to an importer in Canada prior to their shipment to Canada.

(5) If the full amount of any special duty of Customs is not paid on goods imported, the customs entry thereof shall be amended and the deficiency paid upon the demand of the Collector of Customs.

(6) The Minister of Customs may make such regulations as are deemed necessary for carrying out the provisions of this section and for the enforcement thereof.

(7) Such regulations may provide for the temporary exemption from special duty of any article or class of articles, when it is established to the satisfaction of the Minister of Customs that such articles are not made in Canada in substantial quantities and offered for sale to all purchasers on equal terms.

(8) Such regulations may also provide for the exemption from special duty of any article whereon the duty in Schedule "A" is equal to fifty per cent. *ad valorem* or upwards, or when the difference between the fair market value of the goods and the selling price thereof to the importer as aforesaid amounts only to a small percentage of their fair market value.

(9) This section shall not apply to goods of a class subject to excise duty in Canada.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

DOMINION OF CANADA—*continued.*

RULES AND REGULATIONS RESPECTING SPECIAL DUTY LEGISLATION.

The Board of Customs decided on the 10th August, 1904, that the following rule should be adopted:—

That (except as otherwise decided in specified cases) the provisions respecting Special Duty should not apply when the difference between the fair market value and the selling price of the goods to the importer in Canada does not exceed five per cent. of their fair market value,—the whole difference, however, when exceeding five per cent. to be taken into account in cases where special duty is applicable:—

On October 25th, 1904, the following memorandum of instruction was issued to Collectors of Customs:—

"*Rule to be observed for Special Duty purposes only.*

"In computing the difference for special duty purposes between the 'fair market value' in the country of export and the 'selling price' to the importer in Canada, the fair market value of goods is to be estimated on the usual credit basis, except when the article is universally sold in the country of export for cash only, in which case the fair market value is to be estimated on a cash basis.

"When goods ordinarily sold on 'credit' terms are invoiced to a purchaser in Canada on 'cash' terms (payable within thirty days) the usual discount for cash allowed on such goods may be added to the selling price as invoiced to the importer in Canada in computing the '*difference*' between the 'fair market value' and the 'selling price' for special duty purposes: provided, in computing, the difference aforementioned, that an addition of two and a-half per cent. may be made to the said cash invoice price, when the actual discount usually allowed for cash in such case is now ascertained.

"*Examples.*

(1.) "Hats sold for home consumption at 100 dols., on credit, subject to 7 per cent. cash discount, would be liable to special duty if sold to a purchaser in Canada on actual credit at 93 dols., but would not be liable to special duty if sold to a purchaser in Canada for 93 dols. cash.

(2.) "Machinery sold for home consumption at 100 dols. on credit, subject to 2½ per cent. cash discount, would not be liable to special duty if sold to a purchaser in Canada for 93 dols. cash, as the 'difference' does not exceed 5 per cent. after raising the *cash* price (93 dols.) by 2½ per cent. to its *credit equivalent.*

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

DOMINION OF CANADA—*continued.*

On the 22nd November, 1904, the following memorandum was issued to Collectors of Customs :—

"*Advance in market value after purchase of goods by importer not subject to Special Duty.*"

"The amount of any advance in the market value of goods between the time of their purchase by the importer and the date of their exportation to Canada shall not be subject to Special Duty after 9th November, 1904; Provided the goods have been exported in the usual course and the actual date of purchase established to the satisfaction of the collector by contracts or other sufficient documents produced for his inspection and attested to; Provided, however, in respect of goods subject to an *ad valorem* duty, that the ordinary duty shall be collected (as heretofore) on the fair market value of the goods as at the time of their direct exportation to Canada—under the provisions of Section 58 of the Customs Act."

It has also been held that articles of merchandise for use *bonâ fide* as samples for the sale of similar goods are to be admitted without Special Duty (subject, however, to ordinary duties, as heretofore).

GOLD COAST.

New Duties on Spirits.

The "Gold Coast Government Gazette" for 3rd December, 1904, contains a copy of the Kwitta Customs Tariff (Further Amendment) Ordinance, 1904 (No. 10 of 1904), which was assented to by the Governor of the Gold Coast Colony on 28th November, 1904.

The present Ordinance repeals Part I. of the Schedule to Ordinance No. 3 of 1894*, with effect from 1st December, 1904, and substitutes the new rates of duty which will be imposed on various articles imported into the Colony. The various duties previously enacted will continue in force, except as regards spirits, in which case the duties are increased.

The following statement shows the rates leviable from 1st December, 1904, under the present Ordinance together with those previously in force:—

* Part I. of the Schedule to Ordinance No. 3 of 1894 was amended by Ordinance No. 12 of 1900, and the rates of duty imposed thereby were incorporated in the Schedule to the principal Ordinance of 1894.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

GOLD COAST—*continued.*

Articles.	Import Duties. Old Rates.	Import Duties. New Rates.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Brandy, gin, rum, and miscellaneous spirits or strong waters, not being sweetened or mixed with any article so that the degree of strength cannot be ascertained by Sykes' hydrometer of a strength of 12½ (12·5) degrees under proof, the Imperial gallon or part thereof	0 2 2	0 2 11
For every degree or part of a degree stronger than 12½ (12·5) degrees under proof, an additional duty the Imperial gallon or part thereof ...	0 0 0 3/10	0 0 0¾
For every full degree below 12½ (12·5) degrees under proof a reduction, the Imperial gallon or part thereof...	0 0 0 3/10	0 0 0¾
Brandy, rum, gin, liqueurs, spirits of wine, and miscellaneous spirits or strong waters, being sweetened or mixed with any article so that the degree of strength cannot be ascertained as aforesaid, the Imperial gallon or part thereof...	0 2 2	0 4 1
Tobacco, per lb.	0 0 2¾	0 0 2¾
Gunpowder, per lb.	0 0 6	0 0 6
Firearms, each	0 2 0	0 2 0

GERMANY—TOGOLAND.

New Customs Tariff.

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 406 of the Journal for the 26th November, 1903, relative to the denunciation of the Convention establishing a Customs Union between the Gold Coast Colony (east of the Volta) and the German Colony of Togoland, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a translation of the new Customs Tariff for Togoland which has superseded the Tariff established by the above-mentioned Convention. The new Tariff, which is already in force, is as follows:—

Articles.	Unit.	Rate of Duty. Mks.	Rate of Duty. pfg.
Unmixed spirits, containing 50° of alcohol	Litre	0	64
And for every degree of alcohol more or less ...	"	0	01·3
Mixed spirits	"	0	90
Tobacco	Kilog.	0	50
Salt, except for agricultural purposes	100 kilogs.	2	00
Sugar	"	5	00
Petroleum and lamp oil	Litre	0	05½
Firearms	Each	3	00
Powder	Kilog.	1	00
All other articles not included in the free list	*Ad val.*	10 per cent.	

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

The list of duty-free articles includes :—All machines, tools, materials, and appliances, directly destined for the making and maintenance of roads, or the making, maintenance, and working of railways and other means of transport; ivory; living animals of every kind, including birds; fresh meat, and fresh or dried fish; indiarubber; manure and disinfectants; coal, coke, and briquettes; ice; mineral waters; filters; building wood, building stones, chalk; agricultural machines and parts thereof, and agricultural implements; machines and parts thereof for industrial and mining purposes, and for well-sinking; transport requisites of all kinds, and parts thereof, and railway utensils; scientific instruments; surgical instruments, medicines, and bandages; patterns without value; palm-nuts, palm oil, kola, and other West African produce; seeds and living plants; cork; books, labels, invoices, and other printed forms; pictures and statues; coins and token currency legally circulating in the Protectorate.

The complete list may be seen by persons interested on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

It should be noted that the duties prescribed in the above Tariff are now leviable also on the land frontier between Togoland and the Gold Coast Colony, East of the Volta.

CANARY ISLANDS.

Postponement of Restriction of Coasting Trade.

With reference to the notice which appeared on p. 456 of the "Journal" for the 8th December, on the subject of the restriction of the coasting and inter-insular trade of the Canary Islands to Spanish vessels, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that the Spanish Government have given directions for the postponement of the operation of the Decree imposing this restriction until the 1st May next.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Regulations with regard to Tax on Patent Medicines.

The Argentine "Boletin Oficial" for the 7th November contains the text of a Presidential Decree laying down regulations for the collection of the tax on specialities for medicinal, dietetic, or veterinary use.

The "Boletin" containing these regulations (in Spanish) may be seen by those interested on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

PANAMA.

Further Particulars of the Agreement between Panama and the United States.

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 503 of the "Journal" for the 15th December relative to the conclusion of an agreement between Panama and the United States, the Board of Trade have now received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of the Executive Order of the United States Secretary of War, dated 3rd December, 1904, embodying the agreement in question. The

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

PANAMA—*continued.*

principal provisions of the Order, which took effect on the 12th December, are as follows:—

No goods are to be imported at Ancon or Cristobal, the terminal ports of the canal, except (1) supplies for the construction of the canal and for the officers, workmen, and labourers in the canal zone in the service of the United States, (2) articles in transit across the isthmus, and (3) coal and crude mineral oil for fuel purposes to be sold at Ancon or Cristobal to sea-going vessels: coal and oil for such purposes are to be admitted at those ports free of duty.

Panama agrees (1) to reduce the *ad valorem* duty on goods described in class 2 of the Tariff of the 5th July, 1904*, from 15 per cent. to 10 per cent.; (2) not to increase the rates of duty on articles described in the other schedules of that Tariff, except on wines, liquors, alcohol and opium, on which the Republic may fix higher rates; (3) to reduce the consular fees and the port charges at Panama and Colon by 40 per cent.; and (4) not to impose any duty or tax upon goods imported into Panama and Colon, and destined for the canal zone.

No duties or charges of any kind are to be imposed upon goods or persons passing into or from the canal zone from or into the Republic.

Vessels entered at. or cleared from, the canal ports are to be allowed the use and enjoyment of dockage and other facilities at the ports of Panama and Colon on payment only of the dock dues to the owners of the docks. Similar privileges are to be granted at the canal ports to vessels entered at, or cleared from, Panama or Colon; and suitable provision is to be made for the transit of passengers and merchandise between Panama and the canal zone.

Supplementary Agreement.

The Board of Trade are also in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that a supplementary agreement has been signed between the United States and Panama, which provides that after 12th December no cargoes shall be landed at the canal ports unless accompanied by a Panama consular invoice from the port of shipment.

* *See* "Board of Trade Journal" for the 25th August, 1904, pp. 363–4.

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SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

CAPE COLONY.

Addition to Dock Dues at Table Bay.

The "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" of 2nd December notifies approval of the following addition to the Table Bay Harbour Board Tariff of dock dues on goods:—

"Upon all goods landed from distressed vessels and re-shipped, 2*s.* 6*d.* per ton."

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY—MEXICO.

Subsidised S.S. Line between Trieste and Central and South America.

With reference to the notices on p. 120 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 20th October, and p. 172 of the "Journal" of 27th October, respecting the subsidised S.S. line between Trieste and ports in the Gulf of Mexico, Central and South America, the "Diario Oficial" of Mexico of the 3rd December publishes the text of the contract between the Government of Mexico and the "Unione Austriaca Linea de Navigazione" relating to this line.

The "Diario" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

UNITED STATES—PHILIPPINES.

Proposed New Railways.

In connection with the Bill under the consideration of the United States Senate, making provision for the construction of railways in the Philippines, the "Journal of Commerce" (New York) reproduces some particulars prepared by the Bureau of Insular Affairs, regarding the proposed lines. Eight lines are discussed, four of them in the Island of Luzon and one each in Panay, Negros, Leyte and Cebu, and reference is made to the desirability of one or two short lines in Mindanao.

The most important of the proposed lines in Luzon is that to run from Manila to Aparri, at the mouth of the Cagayan River, on the north coast of the Island. The length of this proposed line, for which preliminary surveys have been made, would be 336 miles, and it is estimated that it would cost 6,675,000 dols. or about 20,000 dols. per mile, to construct it.

Another Luzon line, for which preliminary surveys have been made, is proposed to run from Dagupan, the present northern terminus of the Manila-Dagupan line, in a northerly direction, following the west coast to Laoag in the province of Ilicos Norte. This line would be 168 miles long and its estimated cost is 3,367,000 dols.

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Shipping and Transport.

The third and last of the lines for which preliminary surveys and estimates of cost have been made is that from Manila south to Batangas, about sixty miles. The estimated cost of this line is 1,097,457 dols.

Another important line is proposed to run from Pasacao on the west coast of the province of Ambos Camarines to the ports of Tabaco and Legaspi. This would tap the great hemp region of Luzon.

In the island of Panay, which has a population of 743,646, a railway is proposed from Capiz, on the north coast, to Iloilo on the south coast, traversing the heart of the island.

A line is recommended from Escalante, on the north-east coast of the island of Negros, across the island and down the western coast. This line would have a tributary population of 184,889.

The line proposed in Leyte is comparatively short, from Tacloban, on the north-east coast, westerly to Carigara, on Carigara Bay.

The proposed line in the island of Cebu is to run from Davao on the east coast in a south-westerly direction across the island to Dumaguete. Cebu is the island in which the greatest coal developments have been made, and the port of Cebu is the third most important in the archipelago.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—HAWAII.

New Fast Service of Cargo Boats.

The Acting British Consul at Honolulu has forwarded an extract from the "Evening Bulletin" announcing the inauguration from the beginning of the year of a fast service of cargo boats between Honolulu, the Sound, and San Francisco. The boats will be despatched regularly every three weeks.

COSTA RICA.

Damage to Costa Rica Railway.

The Board of Trade have received from the Foreign Office the following copy of a telegram from H.M. Consul at San José:—

"Flood and landslide have occasioned great damage to the Costa Rica Railway. Two months will elapse before through traffic to Atlantic Ports will be again open."

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MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

CANADA.

New Mineral District in Quebec.

Referring to the notice on p. 554 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 22nd December, respecting the mineral resources of Quebec, the information therein given is supplemented by the "Monetary Times" of 16th December, which states that in the opinion of Mr. J. Obalski, Inspector of Mines for Quebec, who has returned from the region some two hundred miles north-west of Lake St. John, around Lake Chibougamau, an important new district for mining investigation and development will shortly be added to the known resources of that province. It is within a hundred miles of the probable route of the proposed government transcontinental railway. The discoveries include copper ore, magnetic iron, gold and asbestos. Some specimens of gold-bearing quartz were taken out by Mr. Obalski from a vein measuring thirty feet in width, which was traced for over two thousand feet, and where all the indications pointed to a considerable gold-bearing section. Perhaps of greater importance still was the discovery of a large belt of serpentine rock, from which were taken some fine samples of asbestos, the fibre varying from an inch to three inches in length. The province of Quebec, remarks the "Monetary Times," is said to contribute about 80 per cent. of the world's production of asbestos, and the new discovery may easily make a valuable addition to the supply. There have also been found what are probably extensive veins of copper ore, carrying boinite, also of iron pyrites and magnetic iron. An abundance of timber exists in the district, suitable for pulp-wood, and excellent water-power.

ITALY—ELBA.

Iron Ore no longer Exported.

In a recent report the British Vice-Consul at Rio Marina (Elba), (Mr. G. Tonietti), states that during the year 1903 the sale of iron ore from Elba to foreign countries ceased, and the United Kingdom received the last exported consignment. Probably these minerals will not be sufficient for local needs, so great is the recent increase in the production of iron goods.

The demand for minerals by the existing manufactories and by those that are to be built along the Italian shore, will be very large, while the smelting furnaces of Elba already consume all the productions of the local mines, and some will be forced to rely on foreign iron ore. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,319.)

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YARNS AND TEXTILES.

INDIA.

Cotton Spinning and Weaving Returns for August.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of the monthly return issued by the Indian Government, showing the quantity of cotton yarn spun, and of cotton woven goods produced in each province of British India, and in the Native States, during August of each of the years 1902, 1903 and 1904, and in the five months ended August, 1902, 1903 and 1904.

The following is a summarised statement extracted from the above return, giving particulars for the five months ended August, 1902, 1903 and 1904:—

		Five Months ended August.		
		1902.	1903.	1904.
BRITISH INDIA, BERAR, AND NATIVE STATES.				
Cotton yarn spun	Lbs.	247,500,725	255,576,716	234,376,534
Cotton woven goods produced:—				
Grey goods	"	38,596,498	45,146,916	49,495,395
	= Yards	159,353,025	186,171,574	211,419,758
Figured and coloured goods	Lbs.	7,074,241	8,845,717	8,925,444
Hosiery	"	165,294	248,597	253,759
Miscellaneous goods ...	"	609,000	644,112	850,627

MEXICO.

Artificial Silk.

The "Economista Mexicana" states that great interest has been aroused in Mexico by the announcement that 1,000,000 dols. have been expended in an undertaking for the manufacture of artificial silk. This product is composed of cotton dissolved in collodion; the resulting mixture is placed in a tank where it remains until fermentation sets in. The liquid is then passed through a number of glass or celluloid tubes grouped in a tower between 120 and 150 feet high; the lower ends of the tubes are perforated with small holes and the solution pours through these in the form of a fine yarn which dries when exposed to the air. Spindles placed below the tubes catch the threads as they come out, and each spindle joins three of these threads into one sufficiently strong for industrial purposes. By means of certain preparations the product can be made non-inflammable. The problem of weaving this silk seems more difficult to solve than that of spinning it; hitherto it has proved impossible to use vegetable silk alone, an admixture of cotton and natural silk being necessary.

It is calculated that this product can be sold in Europe at 3 dols. per lb.; natural silk costs from 14 to 50 dols.

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AGRICULTURE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Corn Prices.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 31st December, were as follow:—

Wheat	30*s.*	4*d.*
Barley	24*s.*	8*d.*
Oats	16*s.*	2*d.*

For further particulars see p. 41.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

Statements are published on pp. 42-3, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the weeks ended the 24th and 31st December, 1904, as well as of the imports during the corresponding weeks of 1903.

NEW ZEALAND.

Wool Clip.

According to the "New Zealand Trade Review" the exports of wool from New Zealand during the year ended 30th September last, as compared with the previous year, were as follow:—

——	1902–3.	1903–4.
	Lbs.	Lbs.
North Island	93,786,529	84,626,290
South Island	67,143,164	56,405,409
Total	160,929,693	141,031,699

The average valuation for the Colony for the year is 7·37*d.* as against 6·01*d.* for 1902–3, an improvement of 22·63 per cent.

In the South Island every port shows a falling-off in quantity, and all but two, Poverty Bay and Patea, in the North Island. The decrease shows the heavier owing to the fact that in 1902–3 the exports were swelled by a certain quantity of wool belonging to the preceding season which had been withheld from shipment. A falling-off is, however, only natural with a diminished number of sheep.

CAPE COLONY.

Proposed Department of Agriculture, Colonial Industries and Technical Instruction.

The "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" of 2nd December, notifies the appointment by the Cape Government of a Commission to enquire into and report upon the advisability of re-organising the existing Agricultural Department with a view to the establishment of a Department of Agriculture, Colonial Industries, and Technical Instruction.

In a letter of instruction issued to each

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Agriculture.

member of the Commission, they are invited to consider and report upon certain suggestions and methods by which financial assistance might be granted to the agricultural population to enable them to develop their resources.

The Commissioners are further requested to enquire into and report upon the best means of:—

1. Establishing and controlling agricultural colleges or training institutions;

2. Establishing a Board of Technical Instruction to organise a system of state-aided technical instruction; and

3. Establishing a Board to promote and advance Colonial Industries.

RUSSIA.

Harvest of 1904.

With reference to the notice published on p. 125 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 20th October last, H.M. Consul at St. Petersburg (Mr. O. Wardrop) reports that the "Russian Official Gazette" has now published the figures, supplied by the Central Statistical Committee, representing the total harvest, in the 72 provinces and territories of the Empire, of all grain crops, spring and winter-sown, for the year 1904.

The yield of spring-sown grain was as follows:—

	Tons.
Rye	447,334
Wheat	12,285,537
Barley	7,374,356
Oats	15,450,322
Spelt	464,797
Buckwheat	960,997
Millet...	1,467,753
Maize...	652,034
Peas	787,701
Lentils	253,368
Beans...	62,419
Total	40,206,618

Adding to this the total of winter-sown grain, 30,301,114 tons, the grand total of the year's harvest is 70,507,732 tons.

The potato crop amounted to 24,189,834 tons.

An examination of the local statistics shows that in 44 provinces with a population of 87,258,900, the harvest was above the average, in 14 provinces, with a population of 21,099,400, it was about the average, and in the remaining 14 governments, with a population of 20,834,100, it was below the average.

Compared with the last five years (1899-1903), the harvest of 1904, excluding oats, was 7,932,703 tons in excess of the annual average.

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Agriculture.

RUSSIA—*continued.*

Export of Grain from Odessa.

The following particulars of the exports of grain from Odessa during 1904 are taken from a report dated the 8th December, by the Acting French Consul in that city, reproduced in the "Moniteur Officiel du Commerce":—

During the first ten months of the year there were exported 45,000,000 pouds of wheat, 7,000,000 pouds of rye, 12,000,000 pouds of maize, 16,500,000 pouds of barley, and 1,500,000 pouds of oats; making a total export of 82,000,000 pouds. The exports for the remaining two months of the year are estimated at 13,000,000 pouds; the total for the twelve months will therefore amount to 95,000,000 pouds, this being a diminution of 50,000,000 pouds as compared with 1903, and of 32,000,000 pouds as compared with 1902.

The decrease, which is chiefly shown in wheat and rye, is due to a diminution in the amount received overland. The quantity brought into Odessa by water has not diminished this year; but it is probable, remarks the Acting French Consul, that in this respect also the port will suffer from the competing ports of Kherson and Ikadovsk.

On the whole, the Odessa grain exporters have had an unfavourable year; the prices which were fairly high at the time of purchasing, having subsequently fallen.

NOTE.—Poud = 36 lbs.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Report of Texas Boll Weevil Commission.

H.M. Consul at Galveston forwards an extract from the "Galveston News" containing the report for the year 1904 of the State Boll Weevil Commission of Texas, a Board of practical farmers appointed to judge the claims submitted by persons competing for the award offered by the State for the destruction of boll weevil.

The Board came to the conclusion that though many of the plans submitted will accomplish some good, not one of the claimants had established his right to the award. After the most careful consideration of the subject, the Board express the opinion that this pest will not leave the cotton growing region. They suggest that a law should be passed by the Legislature of Texas requiring the destruction of the cotton fields at a fixed date, dependent of course upon the part of the State in which the land is situated. In those sections of Texas where the boll weevil has already practically destroyed cotton planting, a trial should be made requiring complete destruction of the cotton plants while green, a penalty to be fixed for failure to obey.

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Agriculture.

JAPAN.

Wheat Crop.

According to "Commerce" (Tokio) the returns of the Japanese Agricultural and Commercial Department give the following table showing the production of wheat during the last five years:—

Year.	Production.
	Koku.
1900	20,398,385
1901	20,658,217
1902	18,425,626
1903	13,545,105
1904	19,642,242

Koku = 4·96 bushels.

MISCELLANEOUS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Cotton Statistics.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 29th December, 1904, was 147,298, and the number imported during the 52 weeks ended the 29th December was 3,909,157. As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 29th December, 1904, 7,524 bales and for the 52 weeks, 379,654.

For further details see p. 41.

GERMANY.

Formation of Society of Candied Sugar Manufacturers.

A memorandum has been received at the Foreign Office, drawn up by the Commercial Attaché to H.M. Embassy at Berlin (Mr. W. S. H. Gastrell), on the subject of the recently-formed Society of German Candied Sugar Manufacturers.

After the conclusion of the first year of the existence of the Society, *i.e.*, after the 30th September, 1905, the Society will pay the buyer—for the whole amount of candied sugar products taken from their factories during the preceding twelve months—a premium on the turnover, graduating according to the quantities delivered.

Candied sugar, however, is so unimportant that the general opinion is that the proceedings of the Society and the amount of the premiums (ranging from about ½ per cent. to 2 per cent. of the current price) will not prevent people from buying where it suits them best.

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Miscellaneous.

BELGIUM.

Regulation as to the Sale of Coffee.

The "Moniteur Belge" of 10th December publishes the following regulation respecting the sale of coffee in Belgium:—

Coffee prepared with the aid of colouring matter, or containing a proportion of sugar, gum-lac or any other harmless substance, may not be sold unless bearing a label indicating in prominent characters the nature of the foreign substance.

The admixture of hydrocarburates (vaseline, paraffin, &c.) is held to be noxious to health, and is therefore forbidden.

MEXICO.

New Monetary Law.

The "Diario Oficial" of Mexico of 9th December publishes the following Decree relating to monetary reform in that country:—

Article 1.—The Executive Government are authorised to reform the monetary laws by defining the classes of coins which shall be legal tender, the value, weight, alloy, and other conditions appertaining to the said coins, and the limits of tolerance in the making and circulation thereof, and in general by promulgating such regulations as may be deemed necessary to improve the monetary system, adapting it to the economic needs of the Republic. These powers are granted to the Executive Government subject to the following conditions:—

(*a*) The existing silver dollar of 24·4388 grammes, 10 milligrammes of fine silver and 2·6342 grammes and 10 milligrammes of copper shall remain unlimited legal tender.

(*b*) A value equivalent to 75 centigrammes of pure gold shall be attributed to the aforesaid dollar.

(*c*) Fractional silver coins shall contain a less proportionate quantity of this metal than their value as a fraction of the dollar.

(*d*) These fractional coins shall not be legal tender for payment of more than 20 dollars, nor coins of inferior metal for more than one dollar; but the Government shall designate offices where private individuals will be able to exchange, free of charge, fractional coins in quantities of the value of 100 dollars or multiples thereof, for standard dollars.

(*e*) The Mints shall not be obliged to coin any precious metals which may be presented to them; but the issue of all classes of money shall be restricted to the Executive Government, in order that they may exercise their powers subject to the laws and on such occasions and to such an extent as may be determined.

Article 2.—The Executive Government are further authorised to lay down the following regulations:—

(*a*) To prohibit or to lay heavy duties upon the importation of Mexican silver dollars into the domains of the Republic.

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Miscellaneous.

(*b*) To demonetise such coins as, in their opinion, it may seem desirable to withdraw from circulation.

(*c*) To coin for exportation dollars of an earlier design than the present one.

(*d*) To change, should it appear convenient, the design of the silver dollar.

(*e*) To permit the legal circulation, for a limited period, of gold coins of other countries, defining their value in Mexican money, if the standard ounce of silver in London attains a value of more than 28½ pence.

(*f*) To modify the fiscal laws on mining by reducing the taxes on precious metals of 2 per cent. for coinage and 3 per cent. for stamp duty, and the dues for assaying, melting, refining and separating.

(*g*) To modify the laws which authorise the levying of a due for proving the title to a mining claim, and also the annual tax on mining claims, so as to benefit mines producing precious metals.

(*h*) To modify the law of 6th June, 1887, so as to reduce to 1½ per cent. the maximum of 2 per cent. upon the value of precious metals, which under this law may be claimed for local taxation.

(*i*) To exempt articles intended for use in the mining industry from import duties, or to reduce the existing duties.

(*j*) To establish offices which, without prejudice to the Treasury, shall advance money on bars of silver, and afford the owners of the said bars facilities for the sale thereof under the best possible conditions, by making the necessary arrangements either in the Republic or abroad.

(*k*) To modify existing civil and mercantile legislation regarding loans and payments in money.

(*l*) To modify those clauses of the Banking Law which bear directly or indirectly upon the metallic circulation, or which affect credit documents or exchange operations.

(*ll*) To form a commission with a view to regulating monetary circulation, and to attain as far as possible stability in the rate of foreign exchange. With this view the Executive Government may grant the said Commission such faculties as may be judged opportune and confer upon them at the proper time the control of a special fund, the amount of which shall be determined by the aforesaid Executive Government.

(*m*) To lay down all necessary regulations including those designed for the repression and punishment of offences and crimes bearing on this Decree; to organise all necessary services and offices, and meet all expenses in connection with the purposes above mentioned, being empowered to that effect to abolish or make alterations in the existing staffs of offices, in the salaries of employees, and in grants and expenditure authorised either by special laws or by the Budget.

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Miscellaneous.

PERU.

Denatured Alcohol freed from Taxation.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of a Peruvian decree regarding the taxation of denatured alcohol in that country. Article 1 provides that from the 27th October, 1904, denatured alcohol of natural production is to be free from all fiscal duties and municipal taxes, subject to rules set forth in the decree.

Article 2 provides for the registration of all persons engaged in the denaturalisation of alcohol.

The denaturalisation is to be effected, in accordance with Article 3, by adding to every hundred litres of alcohol ten litres of methylene and one gramme of malachite or a decigram of fluoresence, and in the corresponding proportion, according to the quantity.

The full text of the decree, together with a *précis* translation of the same, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

COLOMBIA.

Law for the further issue of Paper Money.

With reference to the notice on p. 516 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 17th December, respecting the financial reforms proposed by the President of Colombia in his message to Congress, a despatch has now been received at the Foreign Office, from H.M. Minister-Resident and Consul-General at Bogota (Mr. G. E. Welby), forwarding a translation by Mr. Spencer Dickson of the law as actually passed by Congress containing the conditions under which the Chambers have been willing to consent to a further emission of 100,000,000 pesos of the forced paper currency in order to provide for the most pressing needs of the public service.

The text of the law appears to agree in the main with the law as proposed. It may be noted, however, that the former makes no mention of the proposal to allow the well-established banks to issue bills on condition of their keeping a minimum paper reserve equal to 30 per cent. of the total circulation of their bills.

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STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the Week and 52 Weeks ended 29th December, 1904.

—	Week ended 29th Dec., 1904.	52 Weeks ended 29th Dec., 1904.	Week ended 29th Dec., 1904.	52 Weeks ended 29th Dec., 1904.
	Imports. (Bales.)		Exports. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American	125,215	3,083,434*	2,633	211,828*
Brazilian	4,117	93,258	—	5,242
East Indian	372	196,514	275	76,584*
Egyptian	17,582	440,813	4,433	78,278
Miscellaneous	12	95,138*	183	7,722
Total	147,298	3,909,157	7,524	379,654

* Corrected figures.

NOTE.—In the total of miscellaneous cotton imported during the week ending the 22nd December, 778 bales of British West African cotton were included.

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 31st December, 1904, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

—	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 31st December, 1904 ...	30	4	24	8	16	2
Corresponding week in—						
1897	34	11	27	9	16	10
1898	27	0	28	3	17	0
1899	25	9	25	7	16	2
1900	26	5	25	4	17	2
1901	27	7	26	7	19	10
1902	25	0	23	11	16	10
1903	26	3	22	1	15	5

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

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Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 24th December, 1904, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

—		Week ended 24th Dec., 1904.	Corresponding week in 1903.
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number.	1,769	10,891
Sheep and lambs	"	1,191	18,410
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	170	50
Fresh meat :—			
Beef...	Cwts.	65,101	65,536
Mutton	"	41,247	56,550
Pork	"	24,597	21,099
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Cwts.	111,438	73,932
Beef	"	1,787	4,460
Hams	"	17,382	18,026
Pork	"	2,706	3,177
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ...	"	9,780	7,963
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting	"	15,091	22,699
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwts.	78,433	65,465
Margarine	"	19,236	15,832
Cheese	"	19,849	29,717
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	30
" cream	"	153	172
" condensed	"	19,485	11,469
" preserved, other kinds	"	1	70
Eggs	Grt. Hundr.	288,867	273,112
Poultry	Value £	193,929	115,217
Game	"	4,723	
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	Cwts.	3,892	6,586
Lard	"	47,173	31,931
Corn, grain, meal and flour :—			
Wheat	Cwts.	1,282,900	1,240,600
Wheat meal and flour	"	183,900	760,800
Barley	"	301,200	440,400
Oats	"	204,100	252,100
Peas	"	48,410	52,780
Beans	"	22,440	24,570
Maize or Indian corn	"	718,700	1,320,800
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Cwts.	57,971	37,922
Apricots and peaches	"	—	—
Bananas	Bunches.	69,573	24,143
Cherries	Cwts.	—	—
Currants	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	—	—
Grapes	"	1,402	146
Lemons	"	18,219	14,399
Oranges	"	322,856	230,533
Pears	"	1,502	537
Plums	"	—	—
Strawberries	"	—	—
Unenumerated	"	826	305
Hay	Tons.	1,010	3,305
Straw	"	2,246	2,284
Hops	Cwts.	11,072	5,353
Locust beans...	"	57,574	855
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels.	161,794	120,726
Potatoes	Cwts.	39,549	100,334
Tomatoes	"	5,162	4,636
Unenumerated	Value £	10,426	6,411
Vegetables, dried	Cwts.	2,712	5,347
Preserved by canning	"	1,302	12,462

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Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom—(*cont.*).

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 31st December, 1904, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

—		Week ended 31st Dec., 1904.	Corresponding week in 1903.
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number	10,341	3,750
Sheep and lambs	"	8,283	5,034
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	43	225
Fresh meat :—			
Beef	Cwts.	95,380	103,473
Mutton	"	70,600	30,621
Pork	"	13,923	19,803
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Cwts.	99,373	108,232
Beef...	"	1,970	2,059
Hams	"	25,314	16,826
Pork	"	4,123	3,310
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ...	"	9,253	7,242
Meat, preserved, otherwise than by salting	"	16,176	24,632
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwts.	68,887	97,560
Margarine	"	20,884	15,656
Cheese	"	23,582	17,871
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	—
" cream	"	107	85
" condensed	"	15,816	16,461
" preserved, other kinds	"	37	27
Eggs	Grt. Hundr.	276,089	322,055
Poultry	Value £	30,557	57,064
Game	"	7,010	
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	Cwts.	1,495	3,381
Lard	"	51,988	44,221
Corn, grain, meal and flour :—			
Wheat	Cwts.	2,429,900	1,776,700
Wheat-meal and flour	"	250,120	685,600
Barley	"	596,000	840,400
Oats...	"	199,800	512,900
Peas	"	51,402	46,540
Beans	"	5,160	33,220
Maize or Indian corn	"	843,900	912,300
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Cwts.	20,412	27,485
Apricots and peaches	"	1	19
Bananas	Bunches	24,409	25,322
Cherries	Cwts.	—	—
Currants	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	—	—
Grapes	"	1,681	97
Lemons	"	13,167	46,043
Oranges	"	282,551	217,818
Pears	"	256	47
Plums	"	—	—
Strawberries	"	—	—
Unenumerated	"	3,343	2,726
Hay	Tons	866	3,037
Straw	"	1,753	2,538
Hops	Cwts.	3,443	7,093
Locust beans...	"	—	29,442
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels	129,616	156,685
Potatoes	Cwts.	20,103	190,061
Tomatoes	"	9,123	7,321
Unenumerated	Value £	7,473	6,319
Vegetables, dried	Cwts.	695	15,815
Preserved by canning	"	7,484	10,365

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GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of November, 1904, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance of 1*s.* per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1903, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s.* 1*d.* for the first, and 5*s.* for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1899–1903, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade on the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appeared in the number issued on the 16th December:—State of the Labour Market in November; Trade Unions in 1903; Co-operative Production; Relief of the Unemployed and Wages of Seamen, 1880-1903.

FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in Consular Reports of the Miscellaneous Series issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

MISCELLANEOUS.

No. 622. German Machinery, Import and Export Trade and Industry.

Exports of machinery of all kinds nearly trebled in last decade; value in 1894, 3,970,000*l.* and in 1903, 11,600,000*l.*

Value of imports of machinery during same period increased from 1,415,000*l.* to 2,855,000*l.*

Table showing value of imports and exports of the chief descriptions of machinery in years 1901 and 1903.

Detailed particulars regarding countries of origin and destination.

Chief centres of manufacture of the various kinds of machinery.

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Government Publications.

No. 623. Mining and Metallurgical Industries of Spain in 1903.

Value of total output of mining and metallurgical industries amounted to 11,321,841*l.*; an increase of 497,669*l.* as compared with 1902.

Tables showing increase and decrease in the production of the various minerals and in the output of the metal works.

Statistics of machinery; number of hands employed, &c.

Detailed examination of the mining industry, by provinces.

OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

Statistical Abstract for the Several British Colonies, Possessions, and Protectorates in each year from 1889 *to* 1903. *Forty-first Number.* [*Cd.* 1912.] *Price* 1*s.* 10*d.*

This publication, which is prepared annually in the Statistical Department of the Board of Trade, contains in a succinct form the principal official data regarding the trade, shipping, agriculture, revenue and expenditure, &c., of the various British Colonies, Possessions and Protectorates, as well as an abstract of the rates of import duty levied in the various Colonies on the principal articles of trade. Amongst the tables which appear for the first time in the present issue of the "Abstract," are statements of the principal articles imported into and exported from the Straits Settlements and the Uganda Protectorate; coffee acreage and production in Queensland, British Honduras, Trinidad and British Central Africa; wheat production and trade of the Australian Commonwealth; wheat exports from Canada to the United Kingdom and the United States; and cotton production and exports from the various cotton-producing British Colonies and Possessions.

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LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

THE following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since 1st January, 1904, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

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OF THE

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The office is housed at No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., and (subject to the Comptroller-General of the Commercial, Statistical, and Labour Departments of the Board of Trade) is under the direction of Mr. T. Worthington. The Intelligence Branch endeavours, on application being made to it either personally or by letter, to supply information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender; Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c.

In consequence of the transfer of the Imperial Institute to the Board of Trade from the beginning of 1903, the work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Offices of the Imperial Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

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COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT, BOARD OF TRADE.

January, 1905.

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PAGE

Absorbent Blottings—
Ford, F.R., Loudwater, High Wycombe ..
Tullis, R., & Co., Markinch, Fife ..

Adamantine Clinker (Regd.)—
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham .. ..

Admiralty Charts—
Potter, J. D., 145, Minories .. ..

Agents (Colonial & Foreign)—
Hodgkinson, F.A., & Co., London, E.C. ..

Agricultural Seeds—
Cooper, Tabor & Co., 90 & 92, Southwark Street, S.E. .. ..
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. .. ..

Air Compressors—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks 4

Ale, Beer, and Stout Merchants—
Deakin & Co., Strand, London .. ..

Alkali Manufacturers—
Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire .. ..
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ..

Alloys—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ..

Ammonia, Anhydrous, & Liquid— PAGE
Brotherton & Co., Leeds (Carbonate of Ammonia, Muriate of Ammonia, &c.) .. ..

Ammonia (Anhydrous), Valves for—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd. Glasgow 18

Ammunition Manufacturers—
Xing's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., B'ham...
Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow Cover

Antifouling Composition for Ships—
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton.
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. .. ..

Anti-friction Metal—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ..

Antimony Paint—
Parker & Lester, London, S.E. .. ..

Antiquities in Sundials—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Artists' Colours—
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London E. .. ..

Athletic Goods Manufacturers—
Quaife, Bros. & Lilley, 312, Broad Street, Birmingham .. .. ..

Bags and Sacks— PAGE
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool .. ..

Baths, Porcelain, Enamelled (Cast Iron)—
Clark, T. & C., & Co., Wolverhampton

Bedding—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., South Place, Finsbury, E.C. .. ..

Bedsteads (Iron and Brass)—
Bott, J. T., Ltd., Glover Street, Birmingham .. ..
Evered & Co., London and B'ham ..
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Bordesley, Birmingham, and South Place, Finsbury, E.C. .. ..
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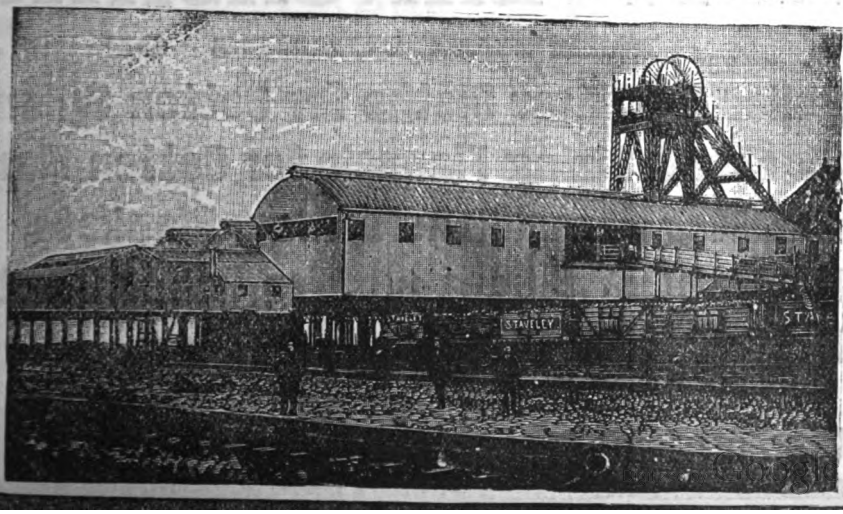

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Binoxide of Barium— PAGE
Bessler, Waechter & Co., 18 & 19, Fenchurch Street, E.C. .. .. ..
Hedworth Barium Co., Ld., Newcastle..

Bird Seeds and Foods—
Hyde, R., & Co., London, S.E. .. ..

Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, J., & Son, 38, City Road, E.C..

Biscuit Manufacturers—
Hubbard, Walter, Partick, Glasgow. Export Agent—J. S. Morrison, Son, & Jones, Peninsular Buildings, London, E.C. .. ..

Blankets—Cotton—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Limited, Manchester .. .. ..

Bleaching Powder—
Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire .. ..
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ..

Blue Manufacturers—
Edge, Wm., & Sons, Ltd., Bolton ..

Boiler Incrustation (Prevention and Removal of)—
The Boilerine Manufacturing Co., Old Kent Road, S.E. .. ..
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ..

Boiler Makers— PAGE
Butterley Co. (The), Ltd., Derby .. 17
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton .. .. Cover
Garrett, R., & Son, Ltd., Leiston, R.S.O. Cover
Hartley & Sugden, Limited, Halifax .. 4
Marriott & Graham, Govan, N.B. .. 21

Boiler Makers and Heating Engineers—
Riley, J. Ashton, Ltd., Manchester Road, Huddersfield .. .. ..

Boiler Tubes—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ..

Bolts, Nuts and Screws—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 24
Periam, Herb. W., B'mgham (Screws, Rivets, Washers, Nails (Roofing)) .. 6

Bone Mill Manufacturers—
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable .. ..

Boots and Shoes—
Lewis, C. & R., Northampton .. ..

Bottled Fruits—
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading..

Brass Finishers—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ..

Brassfounders—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ..

Brass Plate Manufacturers— PAGE
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn .. ..

Brass Scrap Merchants—
Adams, John, & Sons, Newcastle-on-Tyne.. .. ..

Bread & Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, Joseph & Sons, London, E.C. ..

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Craig, J. & M., Ld., Kilmarnock (Enamelled and Glazed Bricks, Glazed Wall Tiles) .. ..
Pearson, E. J. & J., Stourbridge ..
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Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ld., Hanley, Staffs

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Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ld., Hanley, Staffs

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Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ..

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Brison, E., & Co., Bristol .. .. ..
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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Button Manufacturers—
Smith & Wright, Ltd., Birmingham ..

Cables and Wires—
Connolly Bros., Ltd., Blackley, Manchester 23
Bailey's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Limited, London, E.C. .. .. Cover
Bayer's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. 19
Telegraph Manufacturing Co., Ltd., The, Helsby, Warrington .. ..

Candle Manufacturers—
Gates & Tennant, Ltd., Aberdeen ..
Price's Patent Candle Co., Limited, London, S.W. .. ..

Carbolic Acid—
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ..

Carbonic Acid Gas Valves—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow 18

Carboys—
Bradley, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks .. ..

Carpets and Rugs—
Burton, J. E., & Sons, Kidderminster..

Carriage Builders—
Forder & Co., Ltd., Warrant Holders to H.M. the King, Upper St. Martin's Lane, W.C.; Works, Wolverhampton .. ..

PAGE

Cartridge Manufacturers—
Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow ..

Cement Manufacturers—
Peters Brothers, London, S.W... ..
West Kent Portland Cement Co., Burham, near Rochester .. .. ..

Charm Manufacturers—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Chemical Manufacturers—
Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ..
Bessler, Waechter, & Co., London, E.C...
Blythe, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs .. ..
Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., Northwich Cheshire .. ..
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith ..
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle ..
Miller, Jas., Son, & Co., Glasgow ..
The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan .. ..
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ..

Chemical Manure Manufacturers—
Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London. E.C. ..
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B...
Fison, Joseph, & Co., Ltd., Ipswich..
Richards, G. H., 224, Borough High Street, S.E. .. ..
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ..

Chemical & Physical Apparatus—
Reynolds & Branson, Ltd., Leeds ..

PAGE

Chemists (Manufacturing)—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. .. ..
Scott & Bowne, Ltd., London, E.C. (Scott's Emulsion) .. .. ..
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 26a, Southwark-street, London, S.E. .. ..

Chilled Shot—
The Abbey Improved Chilled Shot Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne 2

Chimney Cowl Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester 2

Chimney Shaft, &c., Builder and Repairer—
Lewis, Joseph, 5 & 6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. 8

China Clay—
Lovering, John, & Co., St. Austell ..

China Door Furniture Mnfrs.—
Bullers Ltd., London, E.C. 12

China Electrical Fittings—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C. 12

China Manufacturers—
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C...
Lovering, John, & Co., St. Austell, Cornwall .. ..

Chronometers—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwe Road, London, E.C. .. .. ..
Dent, E. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 & 34, Cockspur Street, London .. ..

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Clocks and Watches— PAGE

Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 & 34, Cockspur Street, London .. ..
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London E.C. ..

Cloth Finishing Machines—

Robertson & Orchar, Dundee .. Cover

Clothing (Fustian)—

Brown, R. B., & Sons, Hebden Bridge

Clothing Manufacturers (Fustian)—

Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge .. ..

Clothing and Woollen Mnfrs.—

Grainger & Smith, Dudley .. ..

Cloths for Machinery—

Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury 10

Clutch Manufacturers—

Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks 4

Coal and Coke—

Cannock Chase Colliery Co., Limited, Birmingham .. ..
Cory Bros., & Co., Ltd., Cardiff .. ..
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. .. ..
Wharncliffe Woodmoor Colliery Co. Ltd., Barnsley .. ..
Wigan Coal and Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan ..

Coal Depot Proprietors— PAGE

Cory Bros., & Co., Cardiff .. .. ..
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. .. ..

Coal Screening Plant—

Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield .. 9

Coatings—Cotton—

Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Limited, Manchester .. .. ..

Cocoa and Chocolate Machinery—

Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ..

Coffee Mill Manufacturers—

Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ..

Colliery Engines—

Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield .. 9

Colliery Owners—

Cannock Chase Colliery Co., The, Ltd., Birmingham .. ..
Cory Bros., & Co., Cardiff .. .. ..
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. .. ..
Wharncliffe Woodmoor Colliery Co., Ltd., Barnsley .. ..

Colour Manufacturers— P

Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen .. ..
Levinstein, Limited, Manchester ..
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ..
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C. .. ..
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. .. ..

Composition for Bottoms of Ships—

Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen .. ..
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton

Compressed Gases (Fittings for)—

Scotch & Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow

Concertinas (English)—

Lachenal & Co., Little James Street, W.C. .. ..

Confectioners—

Craven, M. A., & Son, Ebor Confectionery Works, York .. .. ..

Confectioners' Colours, Essences, &c.—

Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. .. ..
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours and Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., Hackney Wick, N.E. .. ..
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E.
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 26a, Southwark-street, London, S.E. .. ..

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

ping and Paving Bricks— PAGE
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley

pper Tape, Wire Rope, &c.—
Cassely Bros., Ltd., Blackley, Manchester 23
Bailey's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Limited, London, E.C. .. .. Cover

rks—
Ivelli, R., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks .. ..

tton Bagging—
Ralph, T. & W., London, S.E. .. ..

tton Goods—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow
Lancyn, James, & Son, Bury .. ..
Spencer, R., & Co., Manchester .. ..

tton Waste—
Cross, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester .. .. Cover

ches, Crab-Winches—
Dowell, George, & Co., Motherwell, N.B. .. ..

Creosote— PAGE
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ..
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ..

Damp Wall Compositions—
Seerelmey & Co., London, S.E. .. ..

Decklights and Porthole Glasses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Birmingham .. .. ..

Decorated Tin Plates—
The Tinplate Decorating Co., Ltd., Neath ..

Decorative Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley

Delta Metal Manufacturers—
Delta Metal Co., Limited, London, E.C.

Disinfectants—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ..
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ..

Disintegrators—
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable .. ..
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ..

Distillers—
Crawford, Daniel, & Son, Ltd., Glasgow ..
Dalhousie-Talisker Distilleries, Ltd., Carron Strathspey .. .. ..
Distillers Co., Ltd., The, Edinburgh ..

Docks (Floating) Caissons, &c.— PAGE
Cardiff Railway Co., The, Bute Docks, Cardiff; London Office, 22A, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W. .. ..
Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Co., Wyre Dock, Fleetwood .. .. ..

Door Furniture—
Bullers, Limited, London, E.C. 12

Drilling Machines—
Northern Engineering Co., Ltd., King's Cross, near Halifax 6

Drills—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson Limited, Manchester .. .. ..

Dry Soap—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ..
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ..

Dye Merchants—
Edge, Wm., Sons, & Co., Eccles ..

Edge Tools—
Thornton, G., & Co., Birmingham .. 22

HOBBS, HART & CO., Ltd.,

ORIGINAL MANUFACTURERS OF

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Electrical Fittings (China)— PAGE

Bullers, Limited, London, E.C. .. 12

Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and Contractors—

Bullers, Limited, London, E.C... .. 12

Gaskell, A. E., & Co., Manchester ..

Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Limited, London, E.C. .. .. Cover

Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. 19

Lewis, Joseph, 5-6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. 8

Electric Bells—

Wright, Archibald J., Ltd., 818, Upper Street, London, N. .. .. ..

Electric Light Fittings—

Bullers, Limited, London, E.C... .. 12

Electric Novelties—

Wright, Archibald J., Ltd., 818, Upper Street, London, N. .. .. ..

Electrical Screws (Iron, Steel or Brass)—

Acme Lathe Co., Ltd., The, Ardwick, Manchester .. .. Cover

Emery and Corundum Wheel PAGE **Manufacturers—**

London Emery Works Co., 58B, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Lake & Spencer, Limited, Broadheath, near Manchester .. ..

Emery and Glass Cloth—

London Emery Works Co., 58B, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Emery and Glass Paper—

London Emery Works Co., 58B, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Emery Grindg. Machine Mkrs.—

London Emery Works Co., 58B, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Lake & Spencer, Limited, Broadheath, Manchester .. ..

Emery Manufacturers—

London Emery Works Co., 58B, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Lake & Spencer, Limited, Broadheath, Manchester (Emery Wheel and Corundum Wheel Manufacturers) .. ..

Enamel Colours—

Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen .. ..

Enamelled Fire Clay Sinks— PAGE

Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ..

Encaustic Tiles—

Woolliscroft, G., & Sons, Limited, Hanley, Staffs. .. ..

Engine Cleaning Waste—

Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs. Manchester .. .. Cover

Engineers—

Northern Engineering Co., Halifax .. 6

Engineers (Boilers)—

Riley, J. Ashton, Ltd., Manchester Road, Huddersfield .. .. ..

Engineers' Ironfounders—

Robertson & Orchar, Dundee (Machine Moulded Wheels).. .. .. Cover

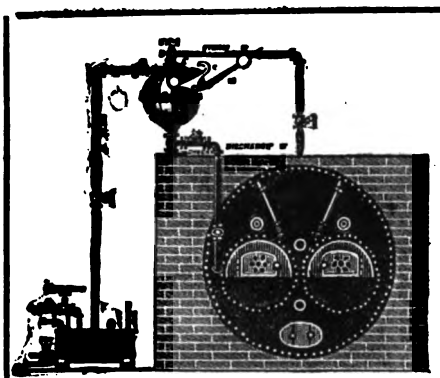
Whittingham & Porter, Hull .. ..

Wigan Coal and Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan..

Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorkshire .. ..

Engineers' Oil Cans—

Kaye, Joseph, & Sons, Ltd., Leeds .. 18



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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

gineers' Stores— PAGE
illcox, W.H., & Co., Ld., London, S.E... 15

gineers' Tool Makers—
rookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield 3
assell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ..

gineers and Millwrights—
General—
rsling & Porter, Rochester (Locomotives, Road Rollers, &c.) .. Cover
gird, W., & Co., Glasgow (Pig Iron, Coal, Coke, &c.) .. ..
aker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C...
urrell, C., & Sons, Limited, Thetford (Locomotives, Steam Rollers, Traction Engines) .. ..
idlaw, Robert, Manchester 2
ay, Summers & Co., Ld., Southampton Cover
urrett, R., & Sons, Leiston, Suffolk Cover
rover & Co., Limited, London, N. ..
oworth, J. & Co., Farnworth, Manchester.. 2
aks & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (various forms of Engineers' Grinding and Polishing Machinery)..
arriott & Graham, Govan, Glasgow (Boiler Makers) .. ..
owright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield .. 9
ulsometer Engineering Co., Ld., The, Reading and London .. .. ..
obertson & Orchar, Dundee .. Cover
assell, G., & Co., Motherwell, N.B ..
impson, Jas., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. 1
pencer, Moulton & Co., Ltd., Bradford-on-Avon, Wilts .. .. .. Cover
hiteley, William, & Sons, Lockwood, Huddersfield 14
hittingham & Porter, Hull .. ..
oodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorkshire 4

gine Packings—
illcox, W.H., & Co., Ld.; London, S.E... 15

gine-cleaning Waste—
ass W. C., Ltd., Manchester Cover

gine Roll Bars—
rookes, Roberts & Co., Sheffield .. 3

ence Manufacturers—
ush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. .. ..
ooks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading
onfectioners' Vegetable Colours & Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., The, London, N.E.
ris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W.
ndon Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E.
evenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark-street, London, S.E. .. ..

Essences, &c.— PAGE
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. .. ..
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark-street, London, S.E. .. ..

Essential Oils—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. .. ..
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E.
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark-street, London, S.E. .. ..

Exhibition Agents—
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Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Fancy Goods, Dealers in, Importers, Warehousemen and Manufacturers—
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C...

Fancywood Merchants—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool .. ..

Fan Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester 2

Feeding Stuffs (for Cattle & Sheep)—
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B...

Felts (Paper Makers' Machine)
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury 10

Fencing (Steel and Iron)—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards Ltd., Norwich .. ..

File Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield 3

Filter Manufacturers—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London .. ..

Fire Bricks—
Calder Fireclay Co., The, Coatbridge ..
Craig, J. & M., Limited, Kilmarnock ..
King Bros., Stourbridge .. .. ..
Pearson, E. J. & J., Stourbridge ..
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham .. ..

Fire Clay—
King Bros., Stourbridge .. .. ..
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham .. ..

Fire Clay Goods— PAGE
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Sinks)..

Flag and Banner Manufactrs.—
Piggott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. ..

Flannel Manufacturers—
Kelsall & Kemp, Limited, Rochdale ..
Spinner & Co., Manchester .. ..

Flour Mill Engineers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C...

Flour Millers—
Appleby, Josh., & Sons, Ltd., Liverp'l..
Vernon, W., & Sons, Liverpool .. ..

Forks—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ..

Forwarding Agents—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., 38, Lime Street, E.C... .. ..

Fruit Essence Manufacturers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. .. ..
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours and Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., London, N.E.
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E.
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark-street, London, S.E. .. ..

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Smily & Shaw, London, E.C. .. ..

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Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge.. ..

Fustian (Piece Goods)—
Moss Bros. (Hebden Bridge), Ltd. ..

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Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham ..

Galvanized Wire Netting—
Barnard, Bishop, & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich .. ..

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Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Garden Furniture—
Barnard, Bishop, & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich .. ..

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Gas Furnaces—
Cannington, Shaw & Co., St. Helens, Lancashire .. ..

Gas Governors—
Shaw, Joseph, Huddersfield .. ..

Gas-Tight Motors—
Hodson Wright & Wood, Halifax .. 2

Gates, Railings, and Hurdles—
Barnard, Bishop, & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich .. ..

Gauge Glasses—
Butterworth Bros., Newton Heath, Manchester .. ..
Tomey & Sons, Perth .. Cover
Tomey, Joseph. & Sons, Messrs., Ltd., Manor Glass Works, Aston, Birmingham .. ..

Gauge Glass Protectors—
Tomey, Joseph. & Sons, Messrs., Ltd., Manor Glass Works, Aston, Birmingham .. ..

Gear Cutter—
Chidlaw, Robert, 42, City Road, Manchester.. 2

Gelatines—
The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan .. ..

General Export Merchants—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E. .. .. ..

Gin Distillers—
Distillers Co., Ltd., The, Edinburgh ..
Hills & Underwood, London, E.C. ..

Girders (Iron and Steel)—
Scott, Walter, Ltd., Leeds .. ..

Glass and Emery Paper—
London Emery Works Co., London, E.C.

Glass Bottles—
Bredit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks .. ..
Cannington, Shaw, & Co., Limited, St. Helens .. ..

Glass Case Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Glass Manufacturers—
Robinson, J. B., 31, Moor Lane, E.C. ..
Stevens, James & Son, Birmingham ..

Glass Works—
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham ..

PAGE

Glazed Bricks—
Woolliscroft, G., & Sons, Limited Hanley, Staffs. .. ..

Glazed Fire Clay Sinks—
Craig, J. & M., Limited, Kilmarnock ..

Glaziers' Diamonds—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Glues—
The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan .. ..

Glycerine—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Limited, London, S.W. .. ..

Golf Balls—
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Limited, London, E.C. ("Melfort" and "Henley") .. .. .. Cover

Grain Cleaning Machinery—
Boby, Robt., Ltd., Bury St. Edmunds..

Granite Merchants—
Freeman, John, Sons, & Co., Ltd., Penryn, Cornwall (Engineering and Architectural) .. ..

Grease Manufacturers—
Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool..
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. .. ..

Grinding Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C...
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable .. ..

Grinding & Polishing Machry.—
London Emery Works Co., London, E.C.
Luke and Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (Makers of various forms of) .. ..

Guano Manufacturers—
Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ..

Gummed Paper—
Jones, S., & Co., 56, Carter Lane, St. Paul's, E.C. .. ..

Hammers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield 3

Hams and Bacon—
Nickson, G. & J., & Co., Ltd., Liverpool

Hand Looms—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury

PAGE

Hardwood Merchants—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool .. ..

Hat Manufacturers—
Christy & Co., London, E.C. .. ..

Haulage Clips—
Smallman, James W., Nuneaton ..

Heating & Ventilating Engineers—
Hartley & Sugden, Halifax (Boilers) .. 4
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ld., London, S.W... 1

Hoes—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ..
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ld., London, S.E... 1

Hollowware—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham ..

Hop Commissioners—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. .. ..

Hose—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ld., London, S.E... 1

Hose-Pipe Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ..

Hosiery—
Walker, R. & Sons, Rutland Street, Leicester .. ..

Hosiery & Finishing Machnry.—
Berridge, I. L., & Co., Leicester (Sole Proprietors, Griswold Knitters) ..

Hosiery Yarns—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford .. ..

Humidifier Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester .. ..

Hydraulic Engineers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C.

Hydraulic Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ..

Hydraulic Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley

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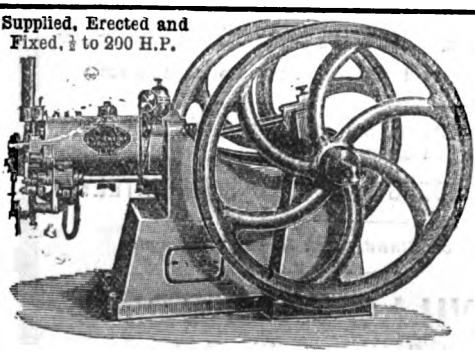

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Ice Machine Manufacturers— PAGE

Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London .. ..

Incandescent Lamps—

Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Limited, London, E.C. .. .. Cover

Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. 19

India-rubber Goods—

Herbert & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C. .. ..

India-rubber Manufacturers—

Herbert & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C. .. ..

Harris, Joseph, Altrincham (Advertising Balloons, Squeakers, and Rubber Surgical Appliances) .. ..

India-Rubber, Gutta-Percha & Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C.

Injectors—

Willcox, W.H., & Co., Ld., London, S.E... 15

Ink Manufacturers—

Blackwell & Co., London, E.C. 22

Inkstands—

Parks, E., 14a, Gt. Marlborough Street, W. .. ..

Insecticides (Horticultural)—

Bush, W. J. & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. .. ..

Insulators—

Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C. 12

Iron Buildings—

Humphreys, Ltd., Knightsbridge, London, S.W. .. ..

Iron Safes—

Milner Safe Co., Ltd., Hancock Road, Bow, E. 2

Ironfounders—

Roberts, J. & S., Ltd., West Bromwich ..

Robertson & Orchar, Dundee .. Cover

Saxby & Farmer, Canterbury Road London N.W. .. ..

Whittingham & Porter, Hull .. ..

Woolhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks.. 4

Ironmasters— PAGE

Baird, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Gartsherrie, N.B. .. ..

Parkgate Iron and Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham .. ..

Whiteley & Sons, Ltd., Huddersfield .. 14

Ironstone Adamant Tiles—

Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Limited, Hanley, Staffs. .. ..

Jute Weaving Machinery—

Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ..

Knitting Machine Builders—

Stibbe, G., & Co., Leicester .. ..

Harrison Patent Knitting Machine Co., Ltd., 227, Upper Brook Street, Manchester .. ..

Lacquer Manufacturers—

Flack, Henry, London, S.E. .. ..

Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E...

Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ..

Lamp Manufacturers—

Bladon, T. E., 99 and 100, Northwood Street, Birmingham; London address, 4, Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, E.C. ..

Lathes (Turning, Polishing, &c.)—

Fabbricotti, B., London, S.W. .. ..

Northern Engineering Co., Ltd., King's Cross, near Halifax 6

Launch Engines—

Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Patricroft, Manchester .. ..

Launch Oil Engines—

The Seal Motor Co., Hammersmith, London 2

Lead Glazing—

Grover & Co., Limited, London, N. ..

Lead Manufacturers—

Hall, W., Winstanley Road, Batterses, S.W. .. ..

Leather Belting (Link)—

Willcox, W.H., & Co., Ld., London, S.E... 15

Leather Reviver—

Flack, Henry, London, S.E. .. ..

Leggings and Gaiters—

Wallace, Bailey & Wilkins, Bermondsey, London, S.E. .. .. ..

Lens Manufacturers for Ships and Railway Lamps—

Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham..

Letter Cutters— PAGE

Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield .. ..

Lifts—

Clark, Bunnett, & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. .. ..

Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ..

Lightning Conductor Manufacturer and Erector—

Lewis, Joseph, 5 & 6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. 8

Lime Juice—

Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. ..

Liquorice Wafers—

Hillabys', Limited, Pontefract .. ..

Lithographic Varnish—

Coates Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ..

Locomotive Engine Builders—

Aveling & Porter, Ltd., Rochester Cover

Burrell, C., & Sons, Ltd., Thetford ..

Garrett, R., & Sons, Leiston, Suffolk Cover

Looking Glass Manufacturers—

Drew & Co, Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Robinson, J. B., 31, Moor Lane, E.C. ..

Loom Makers—

Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury..

Robertson & Orchar, Dundee .. Cover

Lubricants—

Bremner, J. A., & Co., Manchester ..

Fleming, A. B., & Co., Edinburgh ..

Nobel Bros., Petersburg .. .. ..

Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ..

Price's Patent Candle Co., Limited, London, S.W. .. ..

Lubricating Oils—

Light, Jas., & Son, Ltd., 9, Rumford Street, Liverpool .. ..

Nobel Bros., Petersburg .. .. ..

Willcox, W.H., & Co., Ld., London, S.E... 15

Lubricators—

Nobel Bros., Petersburg .. .. ..

Machine Felts—

Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury 16

Machine Knives, Cutters & Blades—

Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield 3

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Machine Makers— PAGE
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee .. Cover

Machine Screws, Bolts, Nuts, &c.—
Acme Lathe Co., Ltd., The, Ardwick, Manchester .. .. .. Cover

Magnesia—
Henry, T. & W., East Street, St. Peter's, Manchester .. ..

Manchester Warehousemen—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E. .. .. ..

Manures (Chemical)—
Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ..
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith ..
Hedworth Barium Co., Ld., Newcastle ..
Thomson, Wm., & Sons, Ltd., Clovenfords by Galashiels (for Vines & Plants)
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ..

Marble and Granite Merchant and Importer—
Fabbricotti, B., Pimlico, Lond., S.W. ..

Marble Manufacturers of all Descriptions—
Fabbricotti, B., Pimlico, Lond., S.W. ..

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Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Hay Mill, Birmingham .. ..
Lane, George, Bruston Street, Birmingham .. ..

Medical Plasters—
De St. Dalmas A., & Co., Leicester ..

Metal Merchants and Manfrs.—
Billington & Newton, Longport, Staffs. ..
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ..
Dugard Bros., Birmingham .. ..
King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham .. ..

Metal Polish—
Baumgartner, J. F., & Co., London, W. ..

Military and Naval Ornaments—
Narborough, F., 40, 42, 44, Lombard Street, Birmingham .. .. ..
Wilkins, T. B., 52, Clement Street, Birmingham .. ..

Mine Owners— PAGE
Wigan Coal & Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan (Producers of Best House, Gas and Steam Coals, and Wigan Cannel) .. ..

Mineral Waters—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. ..

Mining Lamps (all classes)—
Cooke, Joseph, & Son, (Belmont Passage), 202, Lawley Street, Birmingham .. ..

Mortar and Pestle Mfctrs.—
Bullers, Limited, London, E.C. 12

Mortice Furniture—
Bullers, Limited, London, E.C. 12

Mosaic and Tiles Decoration—
Geary, Walker, & Co., 11, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C. .. .. ..
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs. .. ..

Motors (Gas Tight)—
Hodgson Wright & Wood, Halifax .. 2

Mushroom Ketchup—
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading ..

Musical Instrument Manfrs.—
Lachenal & Co., London, W.C. .. ..

Mustard Seed—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. .. ..

Nails—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 24

Name Plate Makers—
Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield .. ..

Newspapers—
Colliery Guardian, 49, Essex Street, Strand, W.C. .. ..

Night Lights—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Limited, London, S.W. .. ..

Oar Manufacturers—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool .. ..

Office Fittings—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Oilcake (Linseed and Cotton)— PAGE
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B ..

Oil Cans—
Bladon, T. E., 99 & 100, Northwood Street, Birmingham; London address, 4, Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, E.C. ..
Kaye, Joseph, & Sons, Ltd., Leeds .. 18

Oil Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Manchester
The Seal Motor Co., Hammersmith, London 2

Oil Mill Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ..

Oil Refiners, Distillers, & Mfrs.—
Bremner, Jno. A., & Co., Manchester ..
Fleming, A. B., & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh ..
Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool ..
Price's Patent Candle Co., Limited, London, S.W. .. ..
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C. .. ..
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. .. ..

Opal Tiling—
The Permanent Decorative Glass Co., Ltd., Lancaster .. ..

Ore Crushing Machines—
Baxter, W. H., Leed .. .. ..

Ovens—
Baker, Joseph, & Son, London, E.C ..

Oxfords Manufacturers—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow

Oxides—
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ..

Oxygen, Cylinder Valves for—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow 18

Paint Manufacturers—
Hoyle, Robson, Barnett & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne .. .. ..
Parker & Lester, London, S.E. (Antimony Paint) .. ..
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton
Robinson, E., & Co., Ltd., City Works, Sheffield .. ..
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. .. ..
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. .. ..

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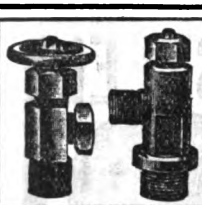

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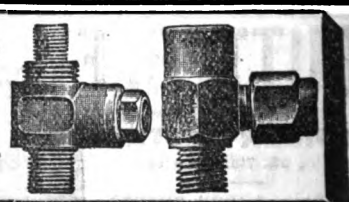

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Paper Makers— PAGE

Smith & McLaurin, Messrs., Ltd., Milliken Park, Scotland (Coated and Gummed Papers) .. ..

Tullis, R., & Co., Markinch, Fife ..

Paper Makers and Stationers (Wholesale and Export)—

Annandale, John, & Sons, Ltd., Shotley Grove, Durham .. ..

Dickinson, J., & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.

Ford, T. B., Loudwater, High Wycombe (Blottings) .. ..

Hodgkinson, W. S., & Co., Wells Somerset .. ..

Hollingworth & Co., Maidstone ..

Olive & Partington, Manchester ..

Paper Makers' Steel & Bronze Tools—

Crookes, Roberts & Co., Arsu Works, Sheffield 3

Paper Makers' Tools—

Crookes, Roberts, & Co., Sheffield .. 3

Parquet Flooring—

Geary, Walker & Co., London, E.C. ..

Patent Fuel Machinery—

Middleton, Robert, Sheepcar, Leeds ..

Pavement Light Lenses—

Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Birmingham .. .. ..

Paving Bricks—

Woolliscroft, G., & Son; Limited Hanley, Staffs. .. ..

Pen Manufacturers—

Gillott, J., & Sons, Birmingham ..

Perfumers—

Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. .. ..

Perfumery Materials—

Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. .. ..

Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark-street, London, S.E. .. ..

Phosphor Bronze—

Billington & Newton, Longport, Staffs. .. 20

Photographic Process—

Phototype Co., The, London, W.C. ..

Pianos, Organs, and Small Instruments— PAGE

Riley's on Constitution Hill, Birmingham .. ..

Pickles—

Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading..

Picks—

Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham 22

Pins (Toilet)—

Edridge, Merrett & Co., Ltd., Lerge Street, Birmingham .. .. ..

Pistons—

Buckley, W., & Co., Millsands, Sheffield 3

Plate and Bar Manufacturers—

Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby.. .. 17

Plate Glass Manufacturers—

Robinson, J. B., London, E.C. .. ..

Poles, Telegraph—

Bullers, Limited, London, E.C. .. 12

Porcelain Paint—

Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. .. ..

Portable Buildings—

Humphreys, Ltd., Knightsbridge, London, S.W. .. ..

Portable Iron and Wood Buildings—

Iles, Robert, Ltd., Walham Green, London, S.W. .. ..

Portland Cement—

Peters Bros., 34, Victoria Street, S.W.

West Kent Portland Cement Co., Burham. Rochester, Kent .. ..

Preservative for Stone, &c.—

Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. ..

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Sheppard & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ..

Smily & Shaw, London, E.C. .. ..

Printing Ink Manufacturers—

Blackwell & Co., London, E.C. .. 22

Coates Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ..

Proprietary Articles, Specialities, &c.— PAGE

Baumgartner, J. F., & Co., London, W. ("La Brillantine" Metallic Powder) .. ..

Dalmas, A. de St., & Co., Leicester (Medical Plaisters) .. .. ..

Henry's Calcined Magnesia (T. & W. Henry), Manchester .. .. ..

Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Co., Lincoln (Clarke's Blood Mixture) .. ..

Scott & Bowne, Ltd., London, E.C. (Scott's Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil) .. ..

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Gunson, Geo., Sons, & Co., Liverpool..

MacSymon's Stores, Ltd., Canning Place, Liverpool .. ..

Nickson, G. & J., & Co., Ltd., Liverpool

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Gunson, Geo., Sons & Co., 2, Atherton Street, Liverpool .. ..

Pulley Blocks—

Godfrey, J. T., Loughborough .. ..

Pulleys—

Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks 4

Pumping Engines—

Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London .. ..

Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ld., London, S.W. .. 1

Pumps—

Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London .. ..

Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ld., London, S.E. .. 15

Quarry Owners—

Freeman, J., Son & Co., London, W. ..

Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Limited, Hanley, Staffs .. ..

Quilts, Covers, Toilettings, &c.—

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Railway Appliances— PAGE
Saxby & Farmer, Limited, Canterbury Road, London, N.W. (Railway Signals, &c.) .. ..

Railway Brass Foundry—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Heath Mill Lane, Birmingham .. .. ..

Railway Lamp Lenses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham .. ..

Railway Signals—
Saxby & Farmer, Ld., London, N.W...

Rain Water Separator—
Rogers, H. J. Shottermill, Haslemere..

Reducing Valves for Compressed Gases—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow 18

Refrigerators—
Haslam Foundry and Engineering Co., Limited, The, Derby 11
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London .. ..

Retorts—
Stevens, J., & Son, Birmingham ..

Rings and Springs—
Buckley, Wm., & Co., Millsands, Sheffield 3

Rivet, Bolt, and Nut Manfrs.—
Gadd, Thos., Rowley Regis, Dudley ..
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 24
Perlam, H. W., Birmingham 6
Priest, B., & Sons, Oldhill, Staffs. ..

Roof Glazing—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N... ..

Roofing (Patent)—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N... ..

Roofing Tile Machinery—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs... .. ..

Roofing Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs .. ..

Rope Manufacturers—
Piggott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. ..

Rubber Tyres— PAGE
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N.

Sacks and Bags—
Judge, T. & W., London, E.C. (Cotton)..
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool .. ..

Saddlery, Harness, &c., Mfrs.—
Rawle & Son, 231 and 232, Blackfriars Road, London, S.E. .. .. ..

Safe Manufacturers—
Hobbs, Hart, & Co., Ltd., London, N. . 13
Ratner & Co., 51, Moorgate Street, E.C. 2

Safety Fuse Manufacturers—
Nobel's Explosive Co., Ltd., Glasgow..

Salt—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ..

Salvage and Dismantling Contractors—
Adams, John, & Sons, Broad Chare, Newcastle-on-Tyne .. .. ..

Sanitary Appliances—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Drain Pipes and Traps, Sanitary Earthenware, W.C. Basins, Urinals, and Washdown Closets, Enamelled Sinks)..

Sanitary Paints—
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton

Sanitary Potters—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ..

Sauce Manufacturers—
Cocks, Chas., & Co., Ltd., Reading ..

Saw Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield 3

Scrap Iron—
Adams, John, & Sons, Broad Chare, Newcastle-on-Tyne .. .. ..

Screw Hooks, Screw Eyes—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham .. ..

Screwing Tackle—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ..

Screws and Spindles—
Dodd, Joseph, & Co., Chester Works, Aston, Birmingham .. .. ..

Screws, Washers, Nails, &c.— PAGE
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 24
Perlam, H. W., Birmingham 6

Seals—
Pryor, E. & Son, Sheffield .. ..

Seed Merchants—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. .. ..

Seeds—
Cooper, Taber & Co., Ltd., London ..

Separators, (Electro Magnetic)—
Gaskell, A. E., & Co., Manchester ..

Serge—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford .. ..
Hamlyn Bros., Ld., Buckfastleigh, Devon
Spinner & Co., Manchester .. ..

Sewing Machines—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee .. Cover

Shafting, Pulleys, Plummer Blocks, &c.—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks. 4

Sheep Dip (both Arsenical and Nicotine)—
Richards, G. H., 234, Borough High Street, S.E. .. ..

Sheep Dip (Nicotine)—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. .. ..

Sheep Dip Manufacturers—
Cooper, Wm., & Nephews, Berkhamsted, Makers of the Original Powder Dip .. ..
The Chemical Union, Ltd., Ipswich..

Sheep Shearing Machines—
Cooper, Wm., & Nephews, 162, Illinois Street, Chicago, and Berkhamsted, England .. ..

Sheers—
Day, Summers & Co., Ld., Southampton Cover

Shipbuilders—
Day, Summers & Co., Ld., Southampton Cover

Shipping Agents—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., London, E.C. ..

Ship Stores and Chandlery—
MacSymon's Stores, Ltd., Canning Place, Liverpool .. ..

Ships' Berths—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Bordesley, Birmingham .. ..

THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Ships' Lamp Lenses— PAGE

Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham .. ..

Shirtings—

Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow

Shoe Rivets—

Eridge, Merrett & Co., Ltd., Legge Street, Birmingham .. .. ..

Shop Fittings—

Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Harris & Sheldon, Ltd., Stafford Street, Birmingham .. ..

Shot (Hard and Soft)—

The Abbey Improved Chilled Shot Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne 2

Shovels—

Thornton, George, & Co., Birmingham

Shuttle Block Manufacturers—

Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool .. ..

Silk Weaving Machinery—

Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ..

Skuks—

Craig, J.&M., Ltd., Kilmarnock, N.B. ..

Slate Merchants and Manufrs.—

Davies Bros., Portmadoc, N. Wales ..

Williams, Richard, & Co., Portmadoc ..

Slipper Manufacturers—

Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge.. ..

Slipway Machinery—

Day, Summers & Co., Ld., Southampton ..

Soap Manufacturers—

Ogston & Tennant, Ltd., Aberdeen ..

Price's Patent Candle Co., Limited, London, S.W. .. ..

Tennant, Charles, & Co., Glasgow ..

United Alkali Co., Ltd., Hazlehurst Soap Works, Runcorn .. .. ..

Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester (Hard and Soft Soaps) .. .. ..

Soap Powders—

Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ..

Soda—

Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire .. ..

United Alkali Co., Ltd Liverpool ..

Spades—

Thornton, George, & Co., Birmingham 22

Sponge Cloths, &c.— PAGE

Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester .. .. Cover

Stamp and Punch Makers—

Pryor, Edward, & Son, Sheffield ..

Stationers (Manufacturing and Export)—

Dickinson, John, & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. .. ..

Stay Busk Manufacturers—

Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield 3

Steam Boilers—

Hartley & Sugden, Halifax 4

Steam Gauge—

Hodson Wright & Wood, Halifax .. 2

Steam Pulsating Pumps—

Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd. The, Reading and London .. ..

Steam Saw Mills—

Fabbricotti, B., London, S.W. ..

Steam Traps—

Whiteley, W., & Sons, Limited, Lockwood, Huddersfield 14

Steam Valves—

Shaw, J., Albert Works, Huddersfield

Steel Castings, Steel and Iron Forgings, &c.—

Baird, W., & Co.. Glasgow .. ..

Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby.. .. 17

Fairley, J., & Sons, Birmingham ..

Lanarkshire Steel Co., The, Motherwell, N.B. .. ..

Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow Cover

Steel and Iron Shafting, &c.—

Robertson & Orchar, Dundee .. Cover

Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow Cover

Steel Manufacturers— PAGE

Brown, Bayley's Steel Works, Limited, Sheffield .. ..

Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby.. .. 17

Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield 3

Fairley, J., & Sons, Birmingham ..

Lanarkshire Steel Co., The, Motherwell, N.B. .. ..

Parkgate Iron and Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham .. ..

Power, F.A., & Sons, Saltley, Birmghm.

Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow Cover

Steel Pen Makers—

Gillott, J., & Sons, London & Birmnghm 8

Steel Ropes—

Cradock, G., & Co., Wakefield .. ..

Steel Tubes—

Russell, J., & Sons, Ltd. Wednesbury

Stencil Plates—

Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield .. ..

Stone Breakers—

Baxter, W. H., Ltd., Leeds .. ..

Stone, Solution for Preservation of—

Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. .. ..

Stoves—

Barnard, Bishop, & Barnards, Limited, Norwich .. ..

Strong Rooms—

Hobbs, Hart & Co., Ltd., London, N. .. 13

Sugar Refiners—

Tate, Henry, & Sons, Ltd., London and Liverpool .. ..

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United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ..

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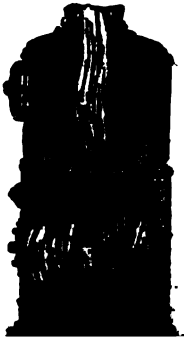

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PAGE

Sulphuric Acid Manufacturers' Retorts—
Stevens, J., & Sons, Birmingham ..

Surgical India Rubber Mfrs.—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co. London, E.C. .. ..

Surgical Instrument Mfctr.—
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Tar and Rosin Distillers—
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Robinson, E., & Co., Ltd., City Works, Sheffield .. ..

Tarpaulin Manufacturers—
Piggott Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ..

Tea Merchants—
Tower Tea Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ..

Teak Timber—
Denny, Mott & Dickson, Ltd., 165, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C. ..

Telegraph Engineers—
Bullers, Limited, London, E.C. .. 12
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Limited, London, E.C. .. .. Cover
Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. 19
Telegraph Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Helsby, Warrington .. .. ..

Telephones—
Telegraph Manufacturing Company, Ltd., Helsby, Warrington .. ..

PAGE

Tents, Marquees and Camp Furniture—
Piggott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. ..

Textile Engineers & Machinists—
Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury..

Textile Machinery Manufrs.—
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Towels—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Limited, Manchester .. .. ..

PAGE

Traction Engines—
Aveling & Porter, Ltd., Rochester Cover

Tube Mill Machinery—
Jones, George, Ltd., Birmingham ..

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Dugard Bros., Birmingham .. ..
Russell, J., & Sons, Ltd., Wednesbury
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Tyre Manufacturers—
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, E.

Valves for Compressed Gases—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow 15

Varnish Manufacturers—
Blackwell & Co., Dyer's Buildings, E.C. .. ..
Flack, Henry, London, S.E. .. ..
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E.
Palmer, W. H., & Co., 82, Old Street, E.C. .. ..
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PAGE

Ventilators—

Howarth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Bolton 2

Vinegar Makers—

Grimble & Co., Ltd., Cumberland Market, N.W. .. ..

Hills & Underwood, London, E.C. ..

Vagn Cover Manufacturers—

Pigott, Bros., & Co., London, E.C. ..

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Frank Hawker Carpathian Silver Co., Ltd., 54, Spencer Street, Birmingham

Washers—

Parkes, Herbert W., Ltd., Floodgate Street Works, Birmingham 6

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Dent, E. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 & 34, Cockspur Street, London ..

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Simpson, J., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W... 1

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Pigott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. ..

Waterproof Paint Manufacturers—

Sandeman & Co., London, S.E... ..

Water Softeners—

Paimanter Engineering Co., Ltd, The, Reading .. ..

Water Taps—

Mathias Engineering Co., Limited, Liverpool 4

Weaving Machinery—

Hall, E., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ..

Whitley, Wm., & Sons, Lockwood, Huddersfield 14

Wheels—

Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N.

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Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham (Wire Nails, Rods, Bars, Hoops, &c.).. 24

Power, F. A., & Son, Saltley, Birmingham .. ..

Shipman, J., & Co., Attercliffe, Sheffield

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Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury 10

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Hall, E., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury (Power Looms and all kinds of Weaving Machinery) .. .. ..

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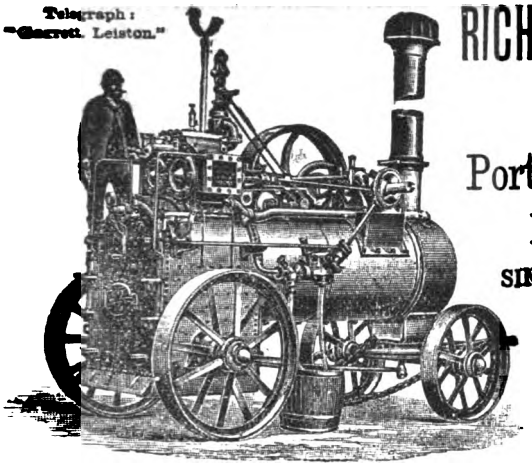

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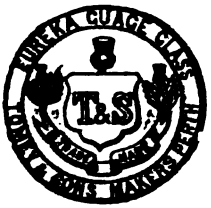

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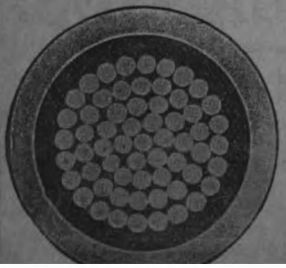

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THE Board of Trade Journal

(With which is incorporated the "Imperial Institute Journal.")

Edited by the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

JANUARY 12, 1905.

	PAGE.
OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE	51
BRITISH TRADE ABROAD (GUATEMALA)	60
IMPORTS OF COTTON GROWN IN THE BRITISH COLONIES AND POSSESSIONS	60
FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM IN DECEMBER AND THE YEAR 1904	60
TRADE OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND BRITISH POSSESSIONS	67
TRADE OF THE ORANGE RIVER COLONY...	69
TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS	70
SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT	77
MINERALS, METALS, AND MACHINERY	79
YARNS AND TEXTILES	81
AGRICULTURE	83
MISCELLANEOUS	84
STATISTICAL TABLES	86
GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS (BOARD OF TRADE*, FOREIGN OFFICE, COLONIAL OFFICE, &c.)	91

For list of contents in detail see p. vii. of Advertisements.

* *For list of principal publications of Board of Trade see p. v. of Advertisements.*

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J. E. RODBER,
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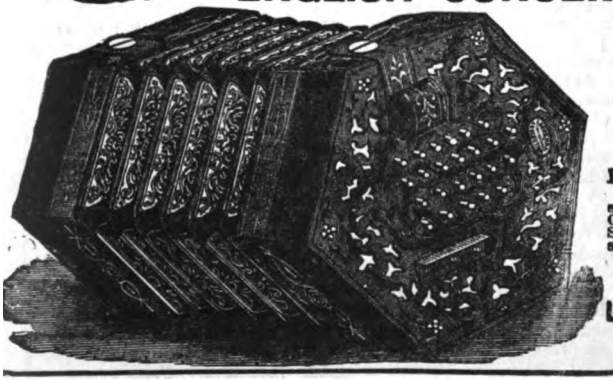

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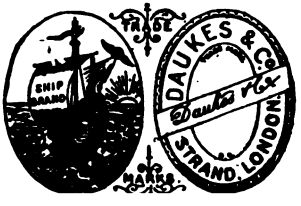

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JANUARY 12TH, 1905.

CONTENTS.

PAGE

Openings for British Trade 51

British Colonies, &c.:—

British India:—

Tenders for Spikes and Bearing Plates.
" " Springs, Sleepers and Turntables.
" " Railway Stores.
" " " Material and Rolling-stock.

Canada.—Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

Australia.—Tenders for Rails and Fishplates in Queensland.

Cape Colony.—Opening for Pumping Plant and Pipes.
Foreign Competition with British Goods.

Natal.—Opening for Electric Tramway Plant.

Foreign Countries:—

Openings for Trade in Sweden, Germany, France, Switzerland, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Greece, Ottoman Empire, Mexico, Guatemala and Brazil.

British Trade Abroad (Guatemala) 60

Imports of Cotton Grown in the British Colonies and Possessions 60

Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in December and the year 1904 ... 60

Trade of Foreign Countries and British Possessions 67

Trade of the Orange River Colony 69

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations 70

Australian Commonwealth. New Zealand. Cape of Good Hope. Transvaal. Somaliland Protectorate. Gold Coast. Belgium. France. Algeria. Roumania. Nicaragua.

Shipping and Transport 77

Compulsory Pilotage at Table Bay. Railway Rate in Cape Colony for Imported Live-stock sent to the Transvaal for Slaughter Purposes. Proposed Port Improvements at Alexandria. Creation of a new Port in Egypt. Through Freight Rates from Germany to the Levant. Steamship Communication between Antwerp and the Far East. Place of Payment of Light Dues in Chile.

Minerals, Metals, and Machinery 79

Cement Production in Germany. Spanish Mining Industry. Coal in Alaska. Production of Gas, Retort-coke, and By-products in the United States in 1903. Sumatra Oil at Foochow.

Yarns and Textiles 81

Exports of Cotton Goods from the United States of America.

Agriculture 83

Flour Export from Russia to the United Kingdom. Cotton Cultivation in the Dutch Colonies.

Miscellaneous 84

Import Trade of New Zealand. Institution of a Belgian-Chinese Chamber of Commerce. New Chilean Law respecting Insurance Companies.

Statistical Tables 86

Cotton Returns (Month and Week).
Corn Prices.
Imports of Agricultural Produce.
Emigration Statistics.
Alien Immigration Statistics.

Government Publications 91

Board of Trade Returns and Labour Gazette. Notes of Foreign and Colonial Office Reports, also of certain other Government Publications having a bearing upon trade issued during the week. List of Foreign Office Reports arranged geographically also a list of Colonial Office Reports issued since the beginning of 1904.

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THE

Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. XLVIII.] January 12, 1905. [No. 424.

In a notice on p. 98 will be found a statement of the objects and work of the **Commercial Intelligence Branch** of the Board of Trade.

The Branch has been moved from 50, Parliament Street to 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

"Advantage, London" is the registered telegraphic address of the Branch.

The Temporary Enquiry Office, hitherto at 49, Eastcheap, E.C., has also been moved to 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

All applications respecting subscription to the "Board of Trade Journal," or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

BRITISH INDIA.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS: INDIA OFFICE.

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The Secretary of State for India in Council is prepared to receive tenders from such persons as may be willing to supply—

Spikes for rails.
Bearing plates for rails.

The conditions of contract may be obtained on application to the Director-General of Stores, India Office, Whitehall, S.W., and tenders are to be delivered at that office by two p.m. on Tuesday, the 17th January, after which time no tender will be received.

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Openings for British Trade.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

Springs, Sleepers and Turntables.

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1. Spiral springs.
2. Cast iron plate (Denham - Olpherts) sleepers.
3. Engine turntables (60 feet diameter).

as per specifications to be seen at the Company's Offices, Nicholas Lane, London, E.C.

Tenders are to be sent to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Spiral Springs," or as the case may be, not later than 12 noon on Wednesday, the 18th January.

The Company reserve the right to divide the order, also to decline any tender without assigning a reason, and do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

For each specification a fee of 1*l.* 1*s.* is charged, which cannot under any circumstances be returned.

Railway Stores.

The Directors of the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway Company are prepared to receive, up to noon on Tuesday, the 17th January, tenders for the supply of the following stores, viz.:—

Class A.—1, brass boiler tubes; 2, metals; 3, switches, with lever boxes; 4, wrought iron and mild steel bolts, nuts, rivets, &c.; 5, wood screws, &c.

Class B.—1, bunting, canvas, &c.

Tenders must be made on forms, copies of which, with specifications, can be obtained at the Company's Offices, Gloucester House, Bishopsgate Street Without, London, E.C., on payment as follows:—For Class A 21*s.* each, and for Class B 10*s.* 6*d.* each (which will not be returned).

The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

Rolling Stock and Railway Material.

The South Indian Railway Company, Limited, are prepared to receive tenders for the supply of—

(*a*) 100 steel covered goods wagons.

(*b*) 200 pairs of spoke wheels and axles for ditto.

(*c*) 400 laminated bearing springs for ditto.

Specifications and forms of tender may be obtained at the Company's Offices, 55, Gracechurch Street, London, E.C.

Tenders, addressed to the Chairman and Directors of the South Indian Railway Company, Limited, marked "Tender for Wagons," or as the case may be, must be left with the Managing Director, not later than 12 noon of Tuesday, the 24th January.

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A charge, which will not be returned, will be made of 20*s.* for each copy of specification (*a*) and of 10*s.* for each copy of (*b*) and (*c*).

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CANADA.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following were among the recent enquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the **Canadian Government Offices, Victoria Street, S.W.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—Enquiry is made for the names of persons in Canada in a position to supply large quantities of maple rollers for use in wall paper printing. The wood must be seasoned, with a two inch bore and painted ends.

A London firm are desirous of appointing agents in Canada for an anti-sulphuric paint, and a leather cloth for upholstery purposes.

The manufacturers of wrought nails of all kinds, chains, vices, hammers, &c., desire to get into direct communication with Canadian importers and users of these goods.

Canadian Enquiry.—A newly formed company in Canada for the sale of druggists' sundries, surgical instruments, rubber goods, &c., are contemplating the appointment of a buyer in London having a knowledge of the business.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, Victoria Street, S.W.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—QUEENSLAND.

Rails and Fishplates.

The Board of Trade have been notified by the Agent-General for Queensland that the Secretary to the Commissioner for Railways, Brisbane, will receive tenders until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, 7th March, 1905, for the supply of 2,000 tons of 61 lb. steel rails and 168 tons of steel fishplates. Tenders should be endorsed "Tender for Steel Rails and Fishplates," and should be accompanied by a preliminary deposit of 1 per cent. of the tender.

Specification, &c. (price 10*s.* 6*d.* per copy) may be obtained at the Office of the Chief Engineer, Brisbane, Queensland, and also at the Agent-General's Office, 1, Victoria Street, London, S.W.

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CAPE COLONY.

Pumping Plant and Pipes.

The "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" of 13th December contains a notice to the effect that the Municipality of Molteno propose to borrow a sum not exceeding 3,500*l.* to be expended as follows:—

To defray the costs already incurred in searching and boring for water and erecting the existing pumping plant and machinery.

To defray the costs of construction of the proposed storage reservoir on the Commonage.

To defray the costs of the pumping plant which it is proposed to erect at the borehole at Onverwacht, and the costs of erection of same.

To defray the costs of the necessary pipes required to connect the pumping plant at Onverwacht with the existing water service, as also the costs of laying same.

Foreign Competition with British Goods.

The Board of Trade have received from their correspondent at Cape Town (Mr. E. J. Cattell) a statement, which has been compiled by him, setting forth the quantities and values of the principal articles imported from foreign countries into Cape Colony which compete seriously with the produce and manufactures of the United Kingdom. The figures relate to the years 1902 and 1903, and Mr. Cattell has worked out the cost at the *port of shipment* for a unit, or 100 lbs., or gallon, &c.

This statement can be consulted by British manufacturers and traders at the Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

It may be noted that (according to the "Report on the Customs Transactions of the Colony of the Year 1903") the declared value of imports from oversea is the price of the article at the place of purchase plus the cost of packing and packages.

NATAL.

Electric Tramway Plant.

The "Natal Government Gazette" of 29th November, publishes the text of a Bill, proposed to be introduced in the Legislative Assembly of Natal, to authorise the construction of a tramway from the northern boundary of the Borough of Durban to a point on the Prospect Hall Estate, in the County of Victoria, with powers to generate electric current and to transmit the same either along the route of the said tramway or elsewhere in the County of Victoria.

The "Gazette" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

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SWEDEN.

Coal.

The "Post och Inrikes Tidningar," in the supplement to its issue of the 3rd January, contains an announcement calling for tenders for the supply to the Swedish Government Railways of certain quantities of coal and coke. Of locomotive coal 51,000 tons are required for delivery in Stockholm, 49,000 in Gothenberg, 53,000 in Malmö. 35,000 in Lulea, and about 120,000 in various quantities for certain other towns specified. Certain quantities of anthracite and other descriptions of coal as well as coke, &c., are also required for Stockholm and other towns. It is laid down that of the locomotive coal required, 6,000 tons of the total amount for Stockholm, 2,000 tons for Gothenberg, and 3,000 tons for Malmö must be "Welsh smokeless," and further, that 2,000 tons for Malmö must be best South Yorkshire. The notice contains particulars of the amount required at each time, the time of delivery, and other matters in connection with the tenders. Tenders must be drawn up on forms which can be obtained from the Railway Administration at the Central Station in Stockholm, where any further particulars not contained in the notice can be obtained. Tenders must be sent in to the Registrar of the State Railway Administration by mid-day on the 4th February next. Such information in regard to the above, which is contained in the public notice, may be seen on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

GERMANY.

Enquiry for Names of Cotton Spinners and Cotton Doublers.

The Board of Trade have been notified by the British Vice-Consul at Stuttgart (Mr. B. Ehrenbacher) that a firm in that town wish to open up business connections with cotton spinners and cotton doublers in the United Kingdom.

Communications should be addressed to the British Vice-Consul, British Consulate, Stuttgart.

FRANCE.

Stone Crushers.

In a recent report, the United States Consul at Nantes says that manufacturers of a good stone-breaking machine might do some business in France. A breaker that will break stones without making too much dust is the sort required. Dust is so objectionable that much of the stone broken in certain French quarries, for export to England as well as for home use, is required to be screened, and in Guernsey electric blowers are used in connection with the

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breakers to blow away the fine particles. Manufacturers of stone breakers who may be interested in the possibilities suggested by this report should communicate with Mr. Thomas Sankey, 51, rue Hippolyte de Tocqueville, Cherbourg.

SWITZERLAND.

Railway Construction.

The "Feuille Fédérale Suisse" of 28th December publishes a Decree authorising the Administration of the Federal Railways to construct a narrow gauge line from Brienz to Interlaken, at an estimated cost of 5,500,000 fr. (about 220,000*l.*).

The same issue of the "Feuille" contains the text of a concession granted to M. W. Hetzel, of Basle, for the construction and working of a narrow gauge railway from Frutigen to Adelboden. The estimated cost of the work is 3,200,000 frs. (about 128,000*l.*) of which 550,000 frs. (about 22,000*l.*) is to be expended on rolling stock.

Electric Railway Construction.

The "Feuille" also publishes the text of a concession granted to M. Stocker, Secretary of the Municipality of Neudorf, and M. Esterman, Mayor of Hildisrieden, for the construction and working of a narrow gauge electric railway from Menziken to Emmenbrücke. The estimated cost of the work is 1,950,000 frs. (about 78,000*l.*) of which 320,000 frs. (about 120,800*l.*) is to be expended on rolling stock.

The "Feuille" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

ITALY.

Construction of Apulian Aqueduct.

Referring to the announcement published in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 22nd December, p. 536, respecting the new regulations for the concession of the contract for the construction of the Apulian aqueduct, a despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Rome (Mr. R. Lister), transmitting a copy of an advertisement (in English) for the international competition in question. This advertisement, which sets forth the main provisions in respect of the concession, the conditions to be complied with by competitors and the method of competition, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C. (any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p m. (Saturdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

The adjudication of the competition will take place at 10 a.m. on the 3rd May, 1905.

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AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

Tramway, Waterworks, Bridge and Building Construction: Electric Lighting: Paving Works.

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Materiels" (Brussels) states that the Municipality of Vienna will shortly invite tenders for the execution of the following works:—Extension of the tramway system, cost, 6,150,000 crowns (about 256,250*l.*); establishment of a second water system, cost, 2,900,000 crowns (about 120,833*l.*); construction of bridges, cost 900,000 crowns (about 37,500*l.*); extension of electric light system, cost, 6,000,000 crowns (about 250,000*l.*); paving works, cost, 2,697,000 crowns (about 112,375*l.*); construction of a market, cost, 400,000 crowns (about 16,666*l.*); of a central abattoir, cost, 500,000 crowns (about 20,833*l.*); and of a museum, cost, 50,000 crowns (about 2,083*l.*); works at the central cemetery, cost, 1,300,000 crowns (about 54,152*l.*).

GREECE.

Paving Works at Athens.

The "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels) states that several projects are now being studied by the Municipality of Athens for the improvement of the streets in that city which at present are in an unsatisfactory condition. One of the projects provides for the laying down of three kinds of paving in different parts of the city; macadam tarred on the surface, asphalt, and granite. About 300,000 square metres would be macadamised, 74,000 square metres asphalted, and 60,000 square metres paved with granite.

The total cost of the work is estimated at 3,500,000 drachmai (about 140,000*l.*), and the upkeep during the first 10 years at 60,000 drachmai (about 2,400*l.*) per annum; after that period, the annual upkeep is estimated at 110,000 drachmai (about 4,400*l.*)

The details of the project will shortly be discussed by the Municipal Council. In order to begin work in 1905, provision has been made in the Municipal Budget for the expenditure of 150,000 drachmai (about 6,000*l.*).

OTTOMAN EMPIRE.

Agricultural Machinery.

The French Vice-Consul at Van, in a report reproduced in the "Moniteur Officiel du Commerce," remarks that there is a good opening for agricultural machinery in that district, more especially for pumps, wine-presses, grape-pickers, &c., used in the wine industry. Machinery for use in this industry is admitted free of duty.

Machines for use in distillation and those used for the manufacture of wood pulp and cellulose are also in great demand.

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MEXICO.

Sewerage Works, Manholes and Gratings.

The "Diario Oficial" of Mexico of 19th December publishes the text of a contract recently concluded between the Mexican Government and Señores Enrique Fernández Castello and Leandro F. Payró regarding the execution of drainage works in Mexico City. The works will comprise the placing of all sewers necessary for rainwater as well as domestic purposes, and the construction of manholes and gratings.

The execution of the works will commence in the first fortnight of January, 1905, and will be carried on without interruption. The contractors bind themselves to carry out between January and the 30th June, 1905, works of the minimum value of 200,000 pesos, and between 1st July, 1905, and 30th June, 1906, works of the minimum value of 400,000 pesos. All the works are to be completed by 31st December, 1906, at the latest.

Railway Construction.

The "Diario Oficial" of Mexico of 20th December contains the text of a concession granted to General Agustin Pradillo for the construction and working, for 99 years, of a railway from Zitácuaro, State of Michoacán, to Joconusco, State of Mexico. Three years are allowed for the free importation of materials and goods referred to in Article 74 of the Railway Law.

The "Diario" of 21st December contains the text of a concession granted to Señor Pablo Martinez del Campo for the construction of a railway, miniature system ("*systema miniatura*") along the projected route of the Calle Reforma 6 Norte as far as the Calzada de la Verónica. The materials necessary for this railway, which is to be completed within twelve months from 10th December, may be imported free of duty, provided all are imported at one time.

Hydro-Electric Plant.

The same issue of the "Diario" contains the following applications for the appropriation of water:—

1. By Señor Manuel Alonso for the appropriation of 80,000 litres per second, for motive power, from two points on the river Antigua, situated respectively in the Municipalities of Paso de Ovejas and Antigua, Cantón of Veracruz, State of Veracruz.

2. From Mr. James Francis O'Gorman for the appropriation of 10,000 litres per second, for motive power and for smelting purposes, from a point on the river Fuerte, situated in the Municipality of Huitis, State of Sinaloa.

3. From Señor David Reyes Retana for the appropriation, for

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irrigation and motive power, of 70,000 litres per second from the river Mexcala (otherwise Balsas), State of Guerrero.

The "Diarios" may be seen on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

GUATEMALA.

Builders' Materials: Sanitary Appliances.

The British Commercial Agent in Guatemala (Mr. E. H. Melville) reports that there is great activity in building in that country, as many houses that suffered during the earthquakes of 1902 are being pulled down and rebuilt, and the new ones are nearly all provided with the latest improvements in sanitary appliances, *i.e.*, the appliances that have been recently introduced and are known to the builders.

Aerated Waters.

Mr. Melville further reports that some business is to be done in aerated waters in the Republic.

BRAZIL.

Railway Construction.

The "Diario Official" of Brazil of 6th December, 1904, contains a Decree revising the concessions for the railways to be constructed from Uberaba to Coxim and from Catalao to Palmas.

The first-named line, the concession for which is owned by the North-Western Railway Company of Brazil, is to start from Bahurú or from some other point on the extension of the Sorocabana Railway, which may be found more convenient, and is to terminate at Cuyabá.

The second line, the concession for which is owned by the Alto Tocantins Company, is to start from Araguary, or some point in the vicinity thereof, on the extension of the Mogyana Railway, and is to terminate at Goyaz. This Company are further authorised to construct a branch from the most convenient point on the last-named line to the navigable part of the river Tocantins: a detailed plan of this branch line must be submitted to the Government within three years from 18th October, 1904, otherwise the concession will lapse.

The "Diario" which contains details of the conditions under which these concessions are granted may be seen on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

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BRITISH TRADE ABROAD.

Guatemala.—In a recent communication, the British Commercial Agent in Guatemala writes:—

"I may here mention that it is very difficult to introduce any particular article that has not previously come before the public (in these parts) without having a sample of some kind to show them.

"The German and American houses send large quantities of samples, as also advertisements,* which will be found in all parts of the country; hence their manufactures are better known than those emanating from the United Kingdom."

* In Spanish.

IMPORTS OF COTTON GROWN IN THE BRITISH COLONIES AND POSSESSIONS.

The following statement, showing the number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom from the British Colonies and Possessions, during the three months ended 31st December, 1904, with comparative figures for the preceding three months, has been prepared in the Board of Trade:—

Colony or Possession whence Imported.	Quarter ended 30th Sept., 1904.	Quarter ended 31st Dec., 1904.
	Bales.	Bales.
British India	51,269	3,815
British West Indies	874	101
British Africa	876	5,046
Total	53 019	8,962

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM IN DECEMBER, AND THE YEAR 1904.*

I.—GENERAL.

The trade returns for December, 1904, show an increase in the value, as compared with the corresponding month of 1903, of the **Imports** into the United Kingdom, the **Exports** of British produce, and of the **Exports** of foreign and Colonial merchandise.

The value of the **Imports** in December, 1904, was 52,845,366*l.*, an increase of 525,748*l.*, or 1·0 per cent., as compared with those in December, 1903, whilst the total **Exports** amounted to 34,512,410*l.*, showing a net increase of 4,079,406*l.* The **Exports** of British produce alone show an increase of 3,459,631*l.*, or 14·0 per cent., as compared with December, 1903, whilst there is an increase of 619,775*l.*, or about 10·6 per cent., in the **Exports** of foreign and Colonial merchandise.

II.—IMPORTS.

The following table shows the value of the **Imports** for December, 1904, as compared with the corresponding months of 1903 and 1902, according to the different categories of merchandise:—

* Reference should be made to the article on "Changes in the Monthly Trade Accounts for 1904," published at pp. 253-5 of the "Board of Trade Journal," of 11th February last, for information as to the changes made in these Accounts in that year.

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in December, 1904.

Imports from Foreign Countries and British Possessions.*

—	Month ended 31st December. 1902.	1903.	1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1904 as compared with 1903.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1904 as compared with 1902.
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—					
A. Grain and flour	5,128,087	6 243,296	5,852,793	− 390,503	+ 724,706
B. Meat, including animals for food.	4,241,202	4,461,588	4,092,288	− 369,300	− 148,914
C. Other food and drink—					
1. Non-dutiable	5,555,705	5,607,348	5,473,481	− 133,867	− 82,224
2. Dutiable	3,666,128	4,183,433	4,551,930	+ 368,497	+ 885,802
D. Tobacco	471,468	473,182	441,738	− 31,444	− 29,730
Total, Class I. ... £	19,062,590	20,968,847	20,412,230	− 556,617	+ 1,349,640
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—					
A. Coal, coke, and patent fuel ..	251	964	278	− 686	+ 27
B. Iron ore, scrap iron, and steel ...	484,906	387,416	394,560	+ 7,144	− 90,346
C. Other metallic ores...	464,003	508,065	632,989	+ 124,924	+ 168,986
D. Wood and timber	1,558,148	1,889,928	1,275,391	− 564,537	− 282,757
E. Cotton	7,593,391	8,412,274	9,623,000	+ 1,210,726	+ 2,029,609
F. Wool	1,829,422	1,875,184	2,436,975	+ 561,791	+ 607,553
G. Other textile materials	1,708,605	1,515,288	1,764,543	+ 249,255	+ 55,938
H. Oil seeds, nuts, oils, fats, and gums	1,944,729	2,614,272	2,047,497	− 566,775	+ 102,768
I. Hides and undressed skins ...	668,396	537,298	575,509	+ 38,211	− 92,887
J. Materials for paper making ...	364,760	405,538	421,236	+ 15,698	+ 56,476
K. Miscellaneous	1,743,523	1,932,525	1,839,137	− 93,388	+ 95,614
Total, Class II. ... £	18,360,134	20,028,752	21,011,115	+ 982,363	+ 2,650,981
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	715,898	817,561	628,725	− 188,836	− 87,173
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	1,435,073	1,785,581	2,062,422	+ 276,841	+ 627,349
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments	410,113	387,931	337,948	− 49,983	− 72,165
D. Telegraph cables and apparatus	—	1,379	6,464	+ 5,085	+ 6,464
E. Machinery	371,661	354,646	321,432	− 33,214	− 50,229
F. Ships (new)	—	—	123	+ 123	+ 123
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture) ...	211,357	187,883	165,041	− 22,842	− 46,316
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton	463,152	457,985	490,585	+ 32,600	+ 27,433
2. Wool	948,207	793,259	881,710	+ 88,451	− 66,497
3. Other materials	1,643,112	1,540,068	1,429,030	− 111,038	− 214,082
I. Apparel†	37,445	205,016	231,373	+ 26,357	+ 193,928
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	685,668	786,082	804,977	+ 18,895	+ 119,309
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes and gloves)	966,686	794,394	826,261	+ 31,867	− 140,425
L. Earthenware and glass	410,693	453,515	389,714	− 63,801	− 20,979
M. Paper...	374,667	454,286	448,467	− 5,819	+ 73,800
N. Miscellaneous	1,917,140	2,166,708	2,230,122	+ 63,414	+ 312,982
Total, Class III. ... £	10,590,872	11,186,294	11,254,394	+ 68,100	+ 663,522
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post) £	157,032	135,725	167,627	+ 31,902	+ 10,595
Total value of Imports £	48,170,628	52,319,618	52,845,366	+ 525,748	+ 4,674,738

* The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance, and freight; or, when goods are consigned for sale, the latest Sale value of such goods.

† Prior to 1903, Apparel, exclusive of "Hats or Bonnets of Straw" and "other articles" was included as follows, viz. :—

"Not Waterproofed" in "Cotton," "Linen," "Silk," and "Woollen" Manufactures unenumerated, and "Waterproofed by any process" in "Caoutchouc Manufactures, other sorts."

Comparing the values of the imports of articles last month with those of December, 1903, the chief increases and decreases are as shown in the following statement:—

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in December, 1904.

Increases.

			£
I.	A.	Wheat	734,656
		Rice, exclusive of rice meal... ...	103,279
	C1.	Hops	282,318
		Lard	55,354
	C2.	Sugar, refined, and sugar candy ...	582,074
		Sugar, unrefined...	150,200
II.	C.	Silver ore	71,532
	E.	Cotton, raw... ...	1,207,779
	F.	Sheep or lambs' wool	486,117
		Mohair...	80,102
II.–*ctd.*	G.	Hemp, dressed and undressed ...	180,644
	H.	Lac-dye, seedlac, &c.	70,526
III.	B.	Copper unwrought and part wro't...	86,094
		Tin	212,696
	H1.	Cotton yarn ...	51,917
	H2.	Woollen yarn for weaving	59,622
		Woollen stuffs ...	79,697
	H3.	Silk manufactures, broad stuffs ...	221,512

Decreases.

			£
I.	A.	Wheat meal and flour...	529,713
		Barley...	302,009
		Oats	80,456
		Maize	220,083
	B.	Cattle	95,152
		Beef, fresh	121,846
	C1.	Butter	72,376
		Apples, raw... ...	160,487
		Potatoes	138,821
	C2.	Raisins...	64,921
		Tea	259,805
	D.	Tobacco, unmanufactured	60,429
II.	D.	Wood and timber, hewn	140,935
		Wood and timber, sawn or split ...	361,938
II.–*ctd.*	H.	Cotton seed... ...	121,069
		Flax or linseed ...	190,501
		Petroleum	163,350
		Turpentine... ...	147,933
	K.	Clover and grass seeds	90,071
III.	A.	Iron, wrought, in bars, angles, &c.	81,848
		Steel in ingots, blooms, &c. ...	90,129
	B.	Copper regulus and precipitate ...	71,140
	H3.	Jute manufactures	162,155
		Silk manufactures, other than broad stuffs and ribbons...	163,261

The following instances of increase in value combined with decrease in quantity, or *vice versâ*, may be noted, viz. :—

			Increase.	Decrease.
I.	A.	Beans	1,710 cwts. ...	£2,002
	B.	Rabbits (dead)	6,442 „ ...	£2,358
		Bacon	28,854 „ ...	£4,947
	C1.	Cheese	4,148 „ ...	£7,085
		Fish, fresh, not of British taking	12.935 „ ...	£3,786
		Onions	£21,736	56,726 bushels
	C2.	Coffee	£3.656	6,206 cwts.
		Currants	£7,230	4,400 „
		Sugar, unrefined...	£150,200 ...	227,386 „
		Spirits other than brandy or rum	£6,413	97,004 proof gals.
II.	G.	Jute	£25,796	4,833 tons
	J.	Wood pulp, chemical, dry ...	£9.109	812 „
	K.	Caoutchouc	£33,595	5,497 cwts.
		Feathers, ornamental	£11,983	6,627 lbs.
III.	A.	Iron and steel tyres and axles...	72 tons ...	£1,441
	B.	Lead	£19,364	671 tons
		Zinc manufactures	£1,023	117 „
	C.	Clocks	4,910 number	£1,699
	J.	Painters' colours and pigments	13,038 cwts. ...	£9,095
	M.	Paper, printed	1,342 „ ...	£3,120
	N.	Brooms and brushes	£1,706	16,119 dozens
IV.		Horses	£6,755	85 number

III.—EXPORTS.

The following table shows the value of the **Exports** of British produce for the month of December, 1904, as compared with the corresponding periods of 1903 and 1902, and the increase or decrease in each principal category :—

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in December, 1904.

Exports of British Produce.*

—	Month ended 31st December. 1902.	1903.	1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1904 as compared with 1903.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1904 as compared with 1902.
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—					
A. Grain and flour	135,176	136,136	187,183	+ 51,047	+ 52,007
B. Meat, including animals for food	37,681	63,760	67,999	+ 4,239	+ 30,318
C. Other food and drink	1,256,457	1,097,670	1,130,874	+ 33,204	— 125,583
D. Tobacco	51,023	60,221	75,146	+ 14,925	+ 24,123
Total, Class I. ... £	1,480,337	1,357,787	1,461,202	+ 103,415	— 19,135
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—					
A. Coal, coke and patent fuel ...	2,282,194	2,207,005	2,178,950	— 28,055	— 103,244
B. Iron ore, scrap iron and steel ...	31,079	29,015	47,232	+ 18,217	+ 16,153
C. Other metallic ores...	8,672	12,791	8,984	— 3,807	+ 312
D. Wood and timber	3,650	2,495	5,335	+ 2,840	+ 1,685
E. Cotton	—	—	—	—	—
F. Wool	138,972	104,059	284,484	+ 180,425	+ 145,512
G. Other textile materials	16,703	13,471	22,677	+ 9,206	+ 5,974
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats and gums...	266,652	237,591	210,934	— 26,657	— 55,718
I. Hides and undressed skins ...	43,943	135,566	138,701	+ 3,135	+ 94,758
J. Materials for paper making ..	36,673	33,952	36,759	+ 2,807	+ 86
K. Miscellaneous	160,987	159,845	185,433	+ 25,588	+ 24,446
Total, Class II. ... £	2,989,525	2,935,790	3,119,489	+ 183,699	+ 129,964
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	2,635,418	2,294,303	2,608,459	+ 314,156	— 26,959
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	497,603	581,387	589,269	+ 7,882	+ 91,666
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments	377,902	396,284	433,381	+ 37,097	+ 55,479
D. Telegraph cables and apparatus..	106,591	43,237	73,539	+ 30,302	— 33,052
E. Machinery	1,572,081	1,850,330	1,943,142	+ 92,812	+ 371,061
F. Ships (new)	252,461	249,217	407,173	+ 157,956	+ 154,712
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture) ...	152,386	122,364	123,721	+ 1,357	— 28,665
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton...	6,172,595	6,501,782	8,271,544	+ 1,769,762	+ 2,098,949
2. Wool	2,078,319	2,277,823	2,699,719	+ 421,896	+ 621,400
3. Other materials	1,077,350	1,161,099	1,173,386	+ 12,287	+ 96,036
I. Apparel	712,258	532,224	468,234	— 63,990	— 244,024
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	975,739	1,092,011	1,148,691	+ 56,680	+ 172,952
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes, and gloves)	449,896	401,349	453,672	+ 52,323	+ 3,776
L. Earthenware and glass	248,696	261,532	259,528	— 2,004	+ 10,832
M. Paper...	143,506	147,794	156,809	+ 9,015	+ 13,303
N. Miscellaneous	1,856,265	1,899,577	2,225,531	+ 325,954	+ 369,266
Total, Class III. ... £	19,309,066	19,812,313	23,035,798	+ 3,223,485	+ 3,726,732
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post) £	429,605	506,613	455,645	— 50,968	+ 26,040
Total value of Exports of British produce ... £	24,203,533	24,612,503	28,072,134	+ 3,459,631	+ 3,868,601

Exports of Foreign and Colonial Produce.

	£	£	£	£	£
Total value	5,474,442	5,820,501	6,440,276	+ 619,775	+ 965,834

* The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship, and are known as the "free on board" values.

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in December, 1904.

Comparing the values of the exports of the principal articles of British produce and manufacture in December, 1904, with those of December, 1903, the chief increases and decreases are as follows:—

Increases.

			£
II.	F.	Wool, sheep and lambs'	180,425
III.	A	Iron and steel and manufactures thereof ...	314,156
	F.	Ships, new	157,956
	H1.	Cotton yarn	75,806
		Cotton piece-goods	1,652,509
	H2.	Woollen tissues	241,346
		Worsted ,, ...	56,793
		Wool blankets	72,193
	H3.	Linen piece-goods	61,511
	N.	Arms, ammunition, &c.	227,554

Decreases.

			£
III.	B.	Copper, unwrought and wrought	80,012
	I.	Apparel	69,968

The following instances of increase in value combined with decrease in quantity, or *vice versâ*, may be noted, viz.:—

			Increase.	Decrease.
I.	B.	Cattle	42 head	... £2,097.
	C.	Beer and ale	427 barrels	... £4,817.
		Hops	£1,187 ...	... 803 cwts.
		Sugar, refined and candy ...	£4,013 ...	... 5,500 cwts.
		,, confectionery, jams, &c...	£1,846 ...	... 106 cwts.
II.	A.	Coal, coke, and patent fuel ...	126,360 tons	... £28.055.
	C.	Metallic ores other than iron ore	376 tons	... £3.807.
	H.	Grease	715 cwts.	... £7,533,
		Oil seed	83 tons ...	... £11,087.
	I.	Skins and furs, undressed ...	339,961 (number)	£15,600.
III.	H2.	Yarn, alpaca, and mohair ...	15,900 lbs.	... £3,275.
		Wool, flannels	48,000 yards	... £5,527,
	N.	Motor cars (including motor cycles)	15 (number)	... £7,046.
		Cement	230 tons	... £2,532.

IV.—TRADE DURING THE YEAR 1904.

The following table shows the value of the Imports from foreign countries and British possessions for the twelve months ended 31st December last, as compared with the corresponding periods of the two previous years:—

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in December, 1904.

Imports from Foreign Countries and British Possessions.*

—	Year ended 31st December. 1902.	1903.	1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1904 as compared with 1903.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1904 as compared with 1902.
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—					
A. Grain and flour	66,774,329	70,510,149	69,614,943	— 895,206	+ 2,840,614
B. Meat, including animals for food	48,149,424	50,397,413	48,690,950	— 1,706,463	+ 541,526
C. Other food and drink—					
1. Non-dutiable...	61,533,264	63,695,665	63,407,797	— 287,868	+ 1,872,533
2. Dutiable	42,152,288	43,491,066	45,553,631	+ 2,062,565	+ 3,401,343
D. Tobacco	5,792,353	4,190,853	4,523,516	+ 332,663	— 1,268,837
Total, Class I. ... £	224,403,658	232,285,146	231,790,837	— 494,309	+ 7,387,179
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—					
A. Coal, coke and patent fuel ...	4,101	3,987	2,689	— 1,298	— 1,412
B. Iron ore, scrap iron and steel ...	5,091,972	4,887,793	4,598,938	— 288,855	— 493,034
C. Other metallic ores...	5,414,737	5,915,491	6,598,921	+ 683,430	+ 1,184,184
D. Wood and timber	25,186,719	27,122,956	23,638,072	— 3,484,884	— 1,548,647
E. Cotton	41,269,095	45,026 578	55,025,325	+ 9,998,747	+13,756,230
F. Wool	22,977,737	23,608,809	23,317,355	— 291,454	+ 339,618
G. Other textile materials	13,456,493	11,829,806	13,038,112	+ 1,208,306	— 418,381
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats, and gums	25,234,400	24,461,171	25,281,374	+ 820,203	+ 46,974
I. Hides and undressed skins ...	8,019,045	7,381,872	6,571,112	— 810,760	— 1,447,933
J. Materials for paper making ..	3,386,773	3,431,467	3,552,162	+ 120,695	+ 165,389
K. Miscellaneous	19,005,484	19,840,107	20,586,458	+ 746,351	+ 1,580,974
Total Class II. ... £	169,046,556	173 510 037	182 210,518	+ 8,700,481	+13,163 962
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	7,909,925	8,662,481	8,215,555	— 446,926	+ 305,630
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	19,073,337	18,511,270	20,954,681	+ 2,443,411	+ 1,881,344
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments	4,423,035	4,236,641	3,780,471	— 456,170	— 642,564
D. Telegraph cables and apparatus..	—	57,360	55.074	— 2,286	+ 55,074
E. Machinery	4,761,108	4,450.370	4,313,771	— 136,599	— 447,337
F. Ships (new)	—	57,965	26,196	— 31,789	+ 26,196
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture) ...	2,465,674	2,345,262	2,083,321	— 261,941	— 382,353
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton...	6,007,969	7,377,581	6,647.991	— 729,590	+ 640,022
2. Wool	13,010,508	11,268.188	11,428,577	+ 160,389	— 1,581,931
3. Other materials	21,491.289	19.505,920	19,385,872	— 120,048	— 2,105,417
I. Apparel †	421,965	3,476,342	3,426,130	— 50,212	+ 3,004,165
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	9,026,584	8,848,292	9,301,980	+ 453,688	+ 275,396
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes, and gloves)	11,346.255	11.313,951	10,894,103	— 419,848	— 452,152
L. Earthenware and glass	4.678,473	4,780,739	4,337.282	— 443,457	— 341,191
M. Paper	4.537,674	4,850,183	4,940,667	+ 90,484	+ 402,993
N. Miscellaneous	23,326,079	24,821,786	25,359,021	+ 537,235	+ 2,032,942
Total, Class III. ... £	132,479,875	134,564,351	135,150,692	+ 586,341	+ 2,670,817
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post) ...	2,461,185	2,240,755	2,210,077	— 30,678	— 251,108
Total ... ... £	528,391,274	542,600,289	551,362,124	+ 8,761,835	+ 22,970,850

* The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance and freight; or when goods are consigned for sale, the latest sale value of such goods.

† Prior to 1903, Apparel, exclusive of "Hats or Bonnets of Straw" and "other articles" was included as follows, viz.:—

"Not Waterproofed" in "Cotton," "Linen," "Silk," and "Woollen" Manufactures unenumerated, and "Waterproofed by any process" in "Caoutchouc Manufactures, other sorts."

The value of the **Exports** of home produce and of foreign and colonial produce during the twelve months of 1904, as compared with 1903 and 1902 is as shown in the following table:—

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in December, 1904.

Exports of British Produce.*

—	Year ended 31st December. 1902.	1903.	1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1904 as compared with 1903.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1904 as compared with 1902.
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—					
A. Grain and flour	1,251,976	1,620,340	1,804,099	+ 183,759	+ 552,123
B. Meat, including animals for food.	626,813	668,227	745,143	+ 76,916	+ 118,330
C. Other food and drink	14,532,234	13,435,032	13,600,782	+ 165,750	— 931,452
D. Tobacco	707,414	653,605	776,027	+ 122,422	+ 68,613
Total, Class I. ... £	17,118,437	16,377,204	16,926,051	+ 548,847	— 192,386
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—					
A. Coal, coke, and patent fuel ...	27,581,136	27,262,786	26,862,387	— 400,399	— 718,749
B. Iron ore, scrap iron, and steel ...	336,763	453,946	499,831	+ 45,885	+ 163,068
C. Other metallic ores...	68,469	134,843	130,806	— 4,037	+ 62,337
D. Wood and timber	25,552	51,164	67,725	+ 16,561	+ 42,173
E. Cotton	—	—	—	—	—
F. Wool	929,839	1,092,907	1,613,436	+ 520,439	+ 683,597
G. Other textile materials	184,689	128,385	179,672	+ 51,287	— 5,017
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats, and gums...	3,132,895	2,976,551	2,759,157	— 217,394	— 373,738
I. Hides and undressed skins ...	375,931	1,276,836	1,431,035	+ 154,199	+ 1,055,104
J. Materials for paper making ...	379,037	409,624	428,439	+ 18,815	+ 49,402
K. Miscellaneous	1,583,361	1,591,697	1,698,007	+ 106,310	+ 114,646
Total, Class II. ... £	34,597,672	35,378,829	35,670,495	+ 291,666	+ 1,072,823
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	28,877,337	30,399,261	28,082,692	— 2,316,569	— 794,645
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	6,269,652	6,958,305	7,000,014	+ 41,709	+ 730,362
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments	4,384,672	4,638,211	4,882,359	+ 244,148	+ 497,687
D. Telegraph cables and apparatus	2,838,641	1,808,465	865,338	— 943,127	— 1,973,303
E. Machinery	18,754,815	20,058,206	21,082,502	+ 1,024,296	+ 2,327,687
F. Ships (new)	5,871,575	4,283,829	4,459,671	+ 175,842	— 1,411,904
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture) ...	1,470,124	1,509,788	1,285,389	— 224,399	— 184,735
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton...	72,458,100	73,611,731	83,917,694	+10,305,963	+11,459,594
2. Wool	23,307,987	25,385,941	27,493,732	+ 2,107,791	+ 4,185,745
3. Other materials	12,190,122	12,637,730	12,411,221	— 226,509	+ 221,099
I. Apparel	7,517,366	7,555,111	5,743,909	— 1,811,202	— 1,773,457
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	12,757,262	13,544,552	13,651,973	+ 107,421	+ 894,711
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes and gloves)	4,410,828	4,946,609	4,756,269	— 190,340	+ 345,441
L. Earthenware and glass	2,997,529	3,278,482	3,117,349	— 161,133	+ 119,820
M. Paper...	1,672,704	1,795,850	1,876,050	+ 80,200	+ 203,346
N. Miscellaneous	21,758,313	22,375,788	23,316,272	+ 940,484	+ 1,557,959
Total, Class III. ... £	227,537,027	234,787,859	243,942,434	+ 9,154,575	+16,405,407
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post) £	4,170,830	4,256,216	4,278,917	+ 22,701	+ 108,087
Total value ... ... £	283,423,966	290,800,108	300,817,897	+10,017,789	+17,393,931

Exports of Foreign and Colonial Produce.

	£	£	£	£	£
Total value	65,814,813	69,573,564	70,321,918	+ 748,354	+ 4,507,105

* The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship and are known as the "free on board" values.

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in December, 1904.

V.—SHIPPING IN DECEMBER, 1904.

The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes, during the month of December, 1904, amounted to 3,218,638 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 3,973,710 tons, as against 3,434,198 tons entered and 3,840,481 tons cleared in the month of December, 1903. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during December, 1904, amounted to 2,579,672 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,530,038 tons, as against 2,577,729 tons entered, and 2,546,471 tons cleared in December, 1903.

VI.—TWELVE MONTHS' SHIPPING (JANUARY-DECEMBER).

The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes, during the twelve months ended December, 1904, amounted to 39,941,897 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 48,466,364 tons, as against 39,903,017 tons entered and 47,399,966 tons cleared during the year 1903. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during the twelve months of 1904 amounted to 32,076,428 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 31,628,393 tons, as against 31,451,238 tons entered and 31,085,768 tons cleared during the year 1903.

TRADE OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND BRITISH POSSESSIONS.

The following summary table has been prepared in the Board of Trade, showing the total imports and exports of merchandise of the principal countries for which the particulars can be given up to October, 1904, inclusive, and referring in all cases to the same period, viz., the ten months ended October. The corresponding figures for 1903 and 1902 are added for purposes of comparison:—

—	Imports (*see* NOTE). Ten Months ended October.			Exports (Domestic) (*see* NOTE). Ten Months ended October.		
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Belgium*	76,828,000	83,892,000	86,966,000	60,169,000	64,637,000	66,863,000
France...	144,093,000	155,434,000	145,799,000	138,866,000	138,378,000	142,821,000
Spain*...	26,240,000	27,601,000	26,768,000	24,597,000	27,082,000	27,625,000
Italy	57,386,000	61,107,000	60,094,000	46,590,000	49,520,000	51,567,000
Austria-Hungary ...	59,095,000	63,676,000	68,580,000	65,564,000	72,875,000	71,248,000
Egypt	12,204,000	13,729,000	16,162,000	13,043,000	13,846,000	15,939,000
United States... ..	164,495,000	175,150,000	175,865,000	221,702,000	234,616,000	234,570,000
Japan	22,314,000	27,086,000	30,279,000	20,575,000	23,858,000	25,624,000
British India... ...	43,437,000	44,944,000	51,659,000	69,006,000	79,791,000	86,141,000
Canada	35,552,000	43,179,000	42,749,000	34,080,000	35,913,000	31,480,000
United Kingdom ...	380,702,000	382,973,000	389,707,000	234,636,000	243,240,000	246,632,000

* Value of *principal* articles only.

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Trade of Foreign Countries and British Possessions.

A comparison of the total figures for the eleven months ended 30th November is possible for four countries, as follows, viz.:—

—	Imports (*see* NOTE). Eleven Months ended November.			Exports (Domestic) (*see* NOTE). Eleven Months ended November.		
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Belgium*	84,010,000	92,100,000	95,531,000	66,528,000	71,215,000	73,581,000
France...	159,094,000	172,054,000	162,870,000	153,559,000	153,103,000	159,398,000
United States ...	182,283,000	191,193,000	195,697,000	247,366,000	267,616,000	267,071,000
United Kingdom ...	420,425,000	426,867,000	431,642,000	259,284,000	266,278,000	272,746,000

* Value of *principal* articles only.

NOTE.—In the case of Belgium, France, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Egypt, Japan, Canada, *and United Kingdom*, the import figures given in the above summaries represent imports for home consumption only, *i.e.*, excluding re-exports. In all cases the export figures are intended to represent exports of domestic produce. In most cases, however, they include a certain amount of "nationalised" goods, *i.e.*, goods originally imported for consumption, and which, if dutiable, have been charged with duty, but which are subsequently re-exported.

The latest figures available as regards other countries from which returns are received by the Board of Trade, are as follow:—

—	Imports.			Exports (Domestic).		
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Russia* (8 months)...	36,006,000	40,499,000	41,450,000	51,958,000	63,068,000	58,504,000
Germany (9 months)	207,677,000	220,378,000	227,857,000	171,262,000	184,161,000	187,424,000
Switzerland (9 ,,)	31,220,000	33,428,000	34,586,000	25,086,000	25,703,000	25,571,000
Portugal (7 months)...	7,175,000	7,999,000	8,378,000	3,648,000	3,836,000	4,068,000
Mexico† (8 months)...	9,724,000	10,219,000	10,462,000	10,190,000	11,115,000	12,002,000

* European and Black Sea Frontiers.

† The values of the imports are stated in gold, and the dollar has been converted into English currency at the rate of 4s. The values of the exports are stated in silver, and the dollar has been converted into English currency for the years ended 30th June. 1902, 1903, 1904, at 1s. 9½d., 1s. 8d., and 1s. 10d. respectively; 1s. 11d. has been taken for the first two months (July and August) of the year 1904–5. The figures for Mexico include bullion and specie.

For detailed particulars regarding the trade of the several countries, reference should be made to the "Accounts relating to the Trade and Commerce of certain Foreign Countries and British Possessions," including figures received up to 31st December, published by Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, E.C.

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TRADE OF THE ORANGE RIVER COLONY.

QUARTER ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1904.

Referring to the notice on p. 543 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 22nd September last, relating to the trade of the Orange River Colony, the Board of Trade have received copy of a return drawn up by the Collector of Customs at Bloemfontein, showing the value of the goods imported into and exported from the Colony during the quarter ended the 30th September, 1904.

The following table shows the value of the principal articles imported during the period mentioned, as compared with the corresponding period of 1903:—

Articles.	Quarter ended 30th September, 1903.	Quarter ended 30th September, 1904.
	£	£
Machinery, agricultural implements and other free articles	57,000	233,000
South African produce	50,000	114,000
Haberdashery, millinery, hosiery, &c.	87,000	79,000
Articles of food and drink	51,000	76,000
Corn and grain (*includes rice*)	85,000	49,000
Wood, raw and manufactured (*includes furniture*) ...	56,000	47,000
Hardware, brass and copperware, &c.	39,000	39,000
Cotton manufactures	28,000	34,000
Apparel and slops (*includes hats*)	32,000	29,000
Leather manufactures (*includes boots and shoes, saddlery and harness, &c.*)	31,000	29,000
Iron, galvanised and corrugated	14,000	12,000
Blankets and sheets or rugs, cotton or woollen... ...	13,000	12,000
Clocks, watches, jewellery, and plated ware	6,000	10,000
Carriages and other kinds of vehicles	10,000	9,000
Drugs and chemicals (*includes medicinal preparations*)	9,000	9,000
Provisions, oilman's stores, &c.	5,000	9,000
Oils and paints, &c....	8,000	8,000
Stationery and fancy goods	7,000	8,000
Fodder	10,000	7,000
Soap and candles	5,000	6,000
Bicycles, tricycles, and accessories	8,000	5,000
Tobacco of all kinds	6,000	5,000
Cocoa, chocolate, coffee and milk, and confectionery ...	5,000	4,000
Earthenware, china and glass	5,000	4,000
Woollen manufactures (*not blankets or rugs*)	9,000	3,000
All other articles	36,000	35,000
Total imports ... ... £	672,000	875,000

The total value of the goods exported from the Orange River Colony during the quarter ended 30th September, 1904, was 348,000*l.*, as compared with 237,000*l.* during the corresponding period of 1903.

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TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

Drawback Regulations: Rice-meal.

A copy of the "Commonwealth of Australia Gazette," for 26th November last, has been received, containing a Notice issued by the Commonwealth Department of Trade and Customs, on 24th November, 1904, in accordance with the provisions of Customs Regulation No. 131, to the following effect:—

Drawback may be allowed in terms of the Customs regulations on the undermentioned imported material used in the manufacture of articles within the Commonwealth, upon the exportation of such manufactured article, and subject to certain conditions:—

Rice-meal used in the manufacture of food for live stock.

NEW ZEALAND.

Regulation under the Preferential and Reciprocal Trade Act, 1903.

A copy of the "New Zealand Gazette" for 10th November, 1904, has been received, containing a Regulation issued by the Governor in Council on 7th November last, under the "Preferential and Reciprocal Trade Act, 1903," which is as follows:—

REGULATION.

In every case where, pursuant to section 8 of the said Act, the full duty under the said Act is payable on any goods owing to the non-production to the Collector of an invoice with the prescribed certificate written or printed thereon, and at the time of importation the importer alleges in writing, and the Collector has reason to believe, that such goods are *bonâ fide* the produce or manufacture of some part of the British dominions, and that such non-production is due to accident, the following provisions shall apply:—

(*a*) The amount so paid may be held by the Collector at the port of importation on deposit pending the production of an invoice with the prescribed certificate written or printed thereon.

(*b*) Such deposit shall be returned to the importer if the invoice, with certificate as aforesaid, is produced within six months from the date of payment of the deposit, but otherwise the same shall be applied as duty payable under the said Act.

Customs Decisions.

The "New Zealand Gazette" for 10th November, 1904, also contains a copy of a Commissioner's Order (No. 754) issued by the Department of Trade and Customs on 8th November, 1904, giving Customs Decisions relating to the rates of duty leviable on various articles imported into New Zealand.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

NEW ZEALAND—*continued.*

The following are the principal Decisions given :—

Articles, and how classed.	Rate of Duty.
Atomizer for the throat—	
As druggists' sundries, n.o.e.	15 % *ad val.*
Bird cages of iron wire—	
As hardware...	20 % „
Electric railway model—	
As toys	20 % „
Fire extinguishers, viz., portable receptacles, with hose and nozzle, containing chemicals—	
As fire engines	Free
Chemicals for fire extinguishers—	
As chemicals, n.o.e....	15 % *ad val.*
Hair pins and hair slides, ladies' fancy—	
As fancy goods	20 % „
Horse shoes of iron—	
As hardware	20 % „
Iron rolled girders, bored or fitted—	
As structural ironwork	20 % „
Soap boxes, fancy—	
As fancy goods	20 % „
Slot rails for cable tramway—	
As tramway materials, n.o.e.	20 % „
Thermometers, clinical—	
As n.o.e.	Free

Regulations affecting Importation and Sale of Patent Medicines.

The same copy of the "Gazette" contains Regulations issued on 3rd November, 1904, under Section 101 of the "Public Health Act, 1900," with effect from 30th June, 1905, notifying that:—

"All patent medicines imported or sold or offered for sale in the Colony shall be required to have the contents with their exact proportions legibly set out in English upon a label affixed on the bottle, box or container. In addition to such information, where such medicines contain one or more of the poisons scheduled under 'The Sale of Poisons Act, 1871,' and its amendments, the words 'This contains poison' must be marked in a clear medium-sized block type upon the label."

The Regulations provide that any person who commits a breach, or fails to comply with any of the foregoing regulations, shall be liable on conviction to a penalty not exceeding 50*l.*

For the purposes of the Regulations, the term "patent medicines" is declared to include, *inter alia*, a number of well-known articles, a list of which may be seen by persons interested on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Export Duty on Angora Rams and Ewes.

A copy of the "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette," dated 9th December, 1904, has been received, which contains a Proclamation (No. 409 of 1904) bringing into force, as from 8th December, 1904, Act No. 21 of 1899, under which a duty of 100*l.* for each Angora ram or ewe exported from the Colony will be levied.

TRANSVAAL.

Prohibition of the Importation of Cattle *viâ* Lourenço Marques.

The "Transvaal Government Gazette" for 9th December, 1904, contains a copy of a Government Notice (No. 1,245 of 1904), dated 30th November, 1904, stating that, in consequence of the prevalence of Rhodesian redwater in Portuguese Territory and the low country of the Transvaal, permits to import cattle into the Transvaal, *viâ* Lourenço Marques, under Clause 1 of Government Notice, No. 1,244 of 1904, will not be issued until further notice.

NOTE.—Under Government Notice, No. 1,244 of 1904, horned cattle arriving at Lourenço Marques from certain countries were allowed to proceed by rail to the Transvaal under permit.

SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE.

Revised Duties on Goods Exported from Berbera and Bulhar.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of a Regulation (No. 9 of 1904) made by H.M. Commissioner at Berbera on 23rd November, 1904, revising the duties imposed under the "Somaliland Customs Regulations, 1902," and amending Regulations, on articles exported from the ports of Berbera and Bulhar.

The rates imposed under the present Regulations on horses, mules, bullocks, camels, donkeys, goats and sheep are the same as those previously in force. The duties however on "all goods" (other than live stock) have, under the revised regulations, been raised from 3 per cent. to 7 per cent. *ad valorem.*

GOLD COAST.

Wine and Beer Licences.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of the "Wine and Beer Licence Ordinance, 1904" (No. 9 of 1904), which was assented to by the Government of the Gold Coast Colony, under date of the 28th November, 1904.

The present Ordinance came into force on 1st January, 1905; and provides, *inter alia*, that wine and beer shall only be sold in the Colony under licence—the duty payable for such licence to sell wine and beer being, for every "store," 4*l.* for a yearly licence, or 2*l.* for a half-yearly one.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

BELGIUM.

Tariff Modifications.

The Belgian Budget Law for 1905, a copy of which has been received at the Board of Trade, through the Foreign Office, contains modifications in the rates of import duty leviable on the undermentioned articles :—

		Import Duty. Frs.	Cts.
Bird skins, bleached, whitened or dyed, not otherwise dressed or made up		Free.	
Birds' feathers simply freed from grease, bleached, whitened or dyed, not scraped		Free.	
Prepared mustard	100 kilogs. gr.	12	00

Wines imported otherwise than in bottles, testing more than 12 deg. (Gay Lussac) at a temperature of 15 deg. centigrade :—

For each deg. above 12 deg. ... ... } Duty on foreign spirits.

(This duty is in addition to the general import duty on wines, of 20 frs. per hectol.)

Such wines, however, testing not more than 15 deg., are exempted from the supplementary tax on production of a certificate, witnessed by the Belgian Consul at the place of shipment, to the effect that they are produced exclusively from the alcoholic fermentation of the juice or must of fresh grapes without addition of alcohol.

	Frs.	Cts.
Beverages manufactured from dried fruits (raisins, dates, figs, &c.), with or without addition of grape juice, as well as those manufactured from alcohol, water, sugar, colouring matters, &c., with or without addition of fruit juice, provided their alcoholic strength does not exceed 15 deg. (Gay-Lussac) at a temperature of 15 deg. centigrade ... ... hectol.	60	00

If the alcoholic strength exceeds 15 deg., such beverages are to pay duty as liqueurs.

These new duties came into operation on the 1st inst., with the exception of those on the above-described wines and beverages, which will be put into force on a date to be fixed by the Government.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

FRANCE.

Customs Decisions.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, copies of certain circulars recently issued by the French Customs Department, containing the following decisions affecting the application of the French Customs Tariff:—

Imports of coffee and bananas from French Guinea.—The quantities of coffee and bananas, the produce of French Guinea, which may be admitted into France at reduced rates of Customs duty during the year ended the 30th June, 1905, have been fixed as follows:—

Coffee	25,000 kilogs.
Bananas	2,500,000 „

Imports of olive oil, &c., from Tunis—A Decree of the 4th November, 1904, fixes at 20,000,000 kilogs., the quantity of olive oil and of oil of residuum of olives, of Tunisian production, which may be imported into France free of duty during the 12 months ending 31st October, 1905.

"*Temporary admission*" *of woollen tissues to be dyed or printed—allowance for shrinkage and loss of weight on re-exportation.*—For tissues of pure wool imported temporarily to be dyed or printed the following are the maximum allowances for shrinkage and loss of weight on re-exportation, provided the Customs stamp be intact at the two ends of the piece:—

1. Tissues not milled, merinos, cashmeres, muslins:—

Weight	10 per cent.
Breadth	10 „
Length	5 „

2. Tissues not milled, crêpe, and crepon:—

Weight	10 per cent.
Breadth	35 „
Length	10 „

3. Woollen tissues, milled:—

Weight	35 per cent.
Breadth	40 „
Length	30 „

These allowances will be made only when the tissues are imported in the condition in which they come from the looms.

The allowance of 15 per cent. of the weight of *satins de chine* is maintained.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

FRANCE—ALGERIA.

Adjeroud-Kiss Opened to Transit Trade to Morocco.

A recent French Customs Circular contains the text of a Presidential Decree dated 13th October, 1904, opening the Custom House of Adjeroud-Kiss (Province of Oran) to importation by sea and exportation by land, of goods sent in transit through Algeria to Morocco.

Tariff of Municipal Octroi de Mer Duties.

The French "Journal Officiel" for the 24th December contains the following Tariff of Municipal Octroi de Mer duties for Algeria, which was to come into force on the 1st January, and is to remain in force until the 31st December next:—

Articles.	Duty.
	Per 100 kilogs. Frs. Cts.
Coffee	30 00
Glucose	10 00
Sugar, raw, and "*Vergoises*" in powder	15 00*
Sugar, refined or loaf, of all kinds	15 00
Candy	15 00
Chicory, ground	5 00
Tea	25 00
Pepper	35 00
Chestnuts, horse-chestnuts, and chestnut meal	5 00
Cinnamon and *cassia lignea*	45 00
Nutmegs, mace and vanilla	100 00
Cloves and clove stalks...	40 00
Mineral oils	5 00
	Per hectolitre. Frs. Cts.
Alcohol, pure, contained in brandies and spirits in casks, brandies and spirits in bottles, liqueurs and brandied fruits	50 00
Alcohol, pure, contained in raisin-wines, artificial wines, and alcoholic liquids produced from the fermentation of figs, locust beans, dates, grain, and all other saccharifferous or similar substances, except fresh grapes, apples, pears and honey.	50 00
Alcohol, pure, contained in composition wines or fortified wines†	50 00
Alcohol, pure, contained in vermouths, liqueur wines or imitation wines	50 00‡
Alcohol, pure, exceeding 15 degrees 9 contained in wines	50 00
Alcohol, pure, contained in alcoholic distilled waters, alcoholic perfumery, and all other products containing an admixture of alcohol	50 00
Beers	5 00

* Per 100 kilogs. of *refined* sugar.

† *i.e.*, wines to which alcohol has been added in order to keep down fermentation.

‡ Half the duty is levied in the case of alcohol contained in vermouths, liqueur wines and imitation wines up to 15 per cent., and the whole duty in the case of alcohol contained in these liquids above 15 per cent., with a minimum standard of 16 per cent. for vermouths, and 15 per cent. for liqueur or imitation wine.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ROUMANIA.

Duty on Engine Boilers.

According to "La Métallurgie" for the 14th December, the minimum weight of engine boilers entitled to admission as "parts of machinery" under the Roumanian Customs Tariff has been lowered from 10 to 8 tons, such boilers being admitted under No. 503 of the Tariff, at the rate of 12 frs. per 100 kilogs. (4*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* per ton). Boilers weighing less than 8 tons (8,000 kilogs.) continue to be dutiable under No. 483 of the Tariff, at the rate of 25 frs. per 100 kilogs. (10*l.* 3*s.* 3*d.* per ton).

NICARAGUA.

Method of Payment of Import, Export, and other Duties.

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 359 of the "Journal" for the 24th November last, relative to a Decree prescribing the method of payment of import duties in Nicaragua, the French "Moniteur Officiel du Commerce" for the 22nd December publishes a translation of a Decree of the Nicaraguan Government, containing revised regulations (which are already in force) for the payment of import and export duties, port dues, consular fees, &c.

The following is the substance of the principal provisions of the Decree in question :—

Article 1.—All export duties, including those levied on cattle, tonnage dues, warehousing dues, customs fines, consular fees, and in general, all fiscal dues appertaining to the Customs and harbour services, are to be paid in gold coin of the United States, or in commercial bills of the first class drawn at sight on that country.

Article 2.—Such import duties as are payable in bills are to be paid in those drawn on the United States *only* (and not, as hitherto, in bills drawn on the United States or on European countries).

Article 3.—Such of the above-mentioned duties as are payable in gold in accordance with former laws, are included in this Decree as regards the provisions which follow.

Article 4.—Duties which are tariffed in national money are to be paid in accordance with Article 2 of the present Decree.

Article 5.—Duties may be paid either in gold or in its equivalent in national money.

Article 7.—The present Decree does not apply to the Custom-houses of the Bluff, Calo, and Cape Gracias à Dios. All contrary dispositions contained in former Laws are abrogated.

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SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

CAPE COLONY.

Compulsory Pilotage at Table Bay.

The "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" of 13th December contains a notice approving amendments in the Table Bay Harbour Board Regulations *inter alia* for making pilotage compulsory on all vessels entering or leaving the docks or basins, or shifting therein, excepting coasting vessels.

Railway Rate for Imported Live Stock sent to the Transvaal for Slaughter Purposes.

The same issue of the "Gazette" notifies that on the 31st December the rough goods rate on imported live stock for slaughter purposes consigned from Cape Government Railway to Central South African Railway stations was to be withdrawn, and that on and from the 1st January, 1905, the following rates would apply:—

Over Cape Government Railways.—Ordinary live stock rate, plus one third.

Over Central South African Railway.—Ordinary live stock rate.

EGYPT.

Proposed Port Improvement at Alexandria.

In the note by the Financial Adviser (Mr. V. E. H. Corbett) to the Government of Egypt on the Budget for 1905, it is stated that the Port of Alexandria figures for a sum of £E 158,000, although within the last four years considerably over £E 500,000 has been spent on it. But such has been the rapidity with which trade has increased that even this heavy expenditure has proved inadequate to keep pace with the requirements of commerce. During last autumn the port was blocked to such an extent that timber ships were kept waiting for days and even weeks before they could unload. This state of affairs was due partly to the increase of traffic consequent on the cessation of the strike at Marseilles; partly to the apathy of the Alexandrian merchants who provide neither sufficient lighters to land their goods nor sufficient carts to carry them away; partly also no doubt to insufficiency of quay room, to want of railway rolling stock, and to too lenient port regulations.

To remedy these inconveniences the Government have decided, as soon as an agreement has been come to with the principal timber merchants, to construct new quays at Gabbari at a cost of £E 180,000 (this sum does not appear in the printed Budget). The Railway Administration has been authorised to proceed at once with the purchase of additional rolling stock, and new port regulations will shortly be promulgated. It is hoped that these measures, together with the co-operation which the Government has a right to expect from the merchants, will do much to relieve the congestion of traffic.

Creation of a New Port.

Mr. Corbett, in his note, further states that the Suakin-Atbara Railway has been energetically pushed on during the year and will, it is hoped, be completed early in 1906. A sum of £E 150,000

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Shipping and Transport.

is set apart for the creation of a maritime terminus for the railway at Sheikh el Barghout, a place some 30 miles to the north of Suakin. The new port, the official name of which has not yet been decided on, has the immense advantage over Suakin of possessing a commodious harbour, easily accessible to ships of heavy draught.

GERMANY.

Through Freight Rates to the Levant.

With reference to the notice which appeared on p. 361 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 24th November last, it may be noted that a copy of the new tariff of through freight rates between Germany and the Levant, referred to therein, has now been received by the Board of Trade, and may be seen by firms interested at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

BELGIUM.

Steamship Communication with the Far East.

H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp (Mr. E. Cecil Hertslet) reports that the steamers of the "Messageries Maritimes" Company trading to the Far East, which have hitherto called at Antwerp at irregular intervals, will, after 1st January, inaugurate a regular service, with Antwerp as the port of departure. The vessels will leave that port on the 1st of each month, taking cargo for Colombo, Indo-China, Hong-Kong and Shanghai, calling at either Dunkirk or Havre, and will complete their cargo at Marseilles. They will carry goods on through bills of lading for Pondicherry, Haiphong, Bangkok and other Eastern ports.

The French steamers "Longsor," "Annam," "Kouang-si" and "El-Kantara," have been selected to sail from Antwerp on the new service during the first four months of this year.

CHILE.

Place of Payment of Light Dues.

With reference to the notice on p. 517 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 17th March respecting the establishment of a lighthouse and buoy tax upon vessels frequenting the coast of Chile, the "Diario Oficial" of Chile of 12th November publishes an Order to the effect that this tax which has hitherto, in certain instances, been payable at the ports of Caldera, Carrizal Bajo, Huasco and Chañaral, may now be paid instead at the Valparaiso Custom House.

The "Diario" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

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MINERALS, METALS, AND MACHINERY.

GERMANY.

Cement Production.

With reference to the notice which appeared on p. 227 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 3rd November last, an interesting report on German cement by H.M. Consul-General at Hamburg has been published as No. 624 of the Foreign Office Miscellaneous Series. Sir William Ward details the syndicate groups of cement manufacturers in Germany as follows:—

1. The Lower Elbe Group; 2. The Stettin (or Pomeranian Group); 3. The Central German Group; 4. The Silesian Group; 5. The Rhenish-Westphalian Group; 6. The South German Group; 7. The Hanoverian Group; and 8. The Berlin Group.

After referring to the collapse of the Cement Trust in 1900, and the non-success of efforts at its re-establishment (although at the meeting held at Berlin in October, 1904, for this purpose, the representatives agreed upon a fixed minimum price within which each group should be allowed to dispose of its production), as well as to the competition of the last few years, he concludes:—

"Whilst, moreover, both the home and foreign consumption are already unable to absorb the immense quantities of cement produced in this country, it is nevertheless a fact that more new cement works are being at present erected, so that in all probability a still larger output may be looked forward to in the near future, unless measures meanwhile be adopted towards restricting the production to a more reasonable figure."

SPAIN.

Mining Industry.

Attention is called to the report on the mining and metallurgical industries of Spain for the year 1903, by Mr. Ronald Macleay, Second Secretary of H.M. Embassy at Madrid, and in particular to two tables which it contains, (1) at pp. 7-8, showing the output of the mines in Spain in 1903, with particulars of the number of concessions, workpeople, and machinery, and (2), at p. 9, showing the total and individual output of the works in operation in 1903, together with the number of steam and hydraulic engines, and of men, women, and children employed. The report itself (*Foreign Office, Miscellaneous Series*, 623) may be obtained at a cost of 2½*d.* from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Coal in Alaska.

A recent issue of the New York "Engineering and Mining Journal" states that near Cape Lisburne, which is on the Arctic coast of Alaska, 300 miles north of the Arctic Circle, are two coal-bearing formations of economic importance. They were studied during

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

the past summer by Mr. Arthur J. Collier, of the United States Geological Survey. The results of this study show that these fields contain not less than 40 beds of coal, each over a foot thick. The aggregate thickness of all the beds seen by Mr. Collier is over 150 feet. Eleven of them are more than four feet thick and contain coal of good quality. Analysis of samples from some of the beds shows the product to be low-grade bituminous coal. A limited amount of coal has been mined here since 1879 for whalers and revenue cutters. Several cargoes were mined in 1901 and sold at Nome markets for 18 dols. and 20 dols. a ton, in competition with Comax and Washington coal at 25 dols. a ton.

Gas, Retort-Coke and By-Products in 1903.

The following particulars are taken from a report of the United States Geological Survey, summarised in the New York "Iron Age" of 8th December :—

Since 1893, when the first plant of by-product coke ovens in the United States was completed at Syracuse, New York, the quantity of coke produced in such ovens has increased so rapidly that in 1903 7·4 per cent. of the total coke product of the United States was thus manufactured. The successful development of this industry has been largely due to the profitable disposition made of the by-products obtained in the manufacturing process. In making its annual canvass of the coal mining and coke making industries for the last two years, the United States Geological Survey has extended its inquiries to cover all plants producing gas and coke from coal with the recovery of the tar and ammonia. Reports were received in 1903 from 528 companies.

The total quantity of coal carbonised in 1903 was 5,843,538 "short" tons (of 2,000 lbs.). The 528 companies produced 33,483,430,989 cubic feet of gas, of which 2,433,969,478 cubic feet were lost or unaccounted for and 31,049,461,511 cubic feet were sold. Of this total 73·9 per cent. was sold for illuminating purposes and 26·1 per cent. for fuel. The average price per 1,000 cubic feet for all gas sold in 1903 was 97 cents. Prices for artificial gas are low in those States which have coal and natural gas among their resources. Such States are Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and also Massachusetts, where a large portion of the coal gas made is a by-product from coke making in retort ovens.

The total production of coke amounted to 3,941,282 "short" tons, of which 1,882,394 "short" tons were obtained from by-product coke ovens, and 2,058,888 "short" tons were the product of gas-houses.

The total quantity of coal tar produced in 1903 was 62,964,393 gallons, valued at 2,199,969 dols., or 3·49 cents a gallon. The

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

largest production of tar in both 1902 and 1903 was in Massachusetts, with New York second, Ohio third, Pennsylvania fourth and Alabama fifth.

Only about 20 per cent. of the companies that manufacture coke and gas reported the recovery of ammonia, either in the form of ammoniacal liquor or sulphate. The total quantity of ammonia liquor produced and sold was 64,396,662 gallons, which would be equivalent to 17,479,759 pounds of anhydrous ammonia, or 67,821,465 pounds of sulphate. The total quantity of sulphate of ammonia produced and sold in 1903 was 11,925,752 pounds. The total production in 1903, reduced to its equivalent in sulphate, was 79,747,217 pounds.

Comparatively little progress has been made in the United States in the manufacture of chemical products from coal tar. Although over 50,000,000 gallons of coal tar are produced annually, millions of dollars' worth of chemicals obtained from coal tar are imported every year. A conservative estimate would place the total value of these products in the wholesale markets of the United States of America at 12,000,000 dols.

NOTE.—United States gallon = ·833 Imperial gallon.

CHINA.

Sumatra Oil at Foochow.

H.M. Consul at Foochow (Mr. H. F. Brady) in his report for 1903 (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,317), states that Sumatra is now the only place from which oil is imported in any quantity. Russian and American oils, which formerly figured largely in the returns, have practically disappeared, This is accounted for by the fact that Sumatra oil, while equal in quality to other oils, certainly in the eyes of the Chinese, is cheaper, owing to its being purchasable in bulk. The Royal Dutch Petroleum Company and the Asiatic Petroleum Company have installed tanks both in Foochow and at Pagoda Anchorage, whence native dealers draw their supplies in any receptacle which they may happen to have, without having to incur the expense of the usual tins and cases.

YARNS AND TEXTILES.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Exports of Cotton Goods.

The following statement, showing the exports of cotton goods (domestic manufacture) from the United States to various countries during the eleven months ended November, 1903 and 1904, has been compiled from the official statistics issued by the United States Government:—

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Yarns and Textiles.

To	Eleven months ended November. 1903.	1904.
Coloured and uncoloured cloths—	Yards.	Yards.
United Kingdom	3,586,294	2,011,870
France	42,462	—
Germany	185,184	76,693
Other Europe	1,582,309	1,301,339
British North America	11,462,425	8,150,749
Central America and British Honduras	16,460,822	22,199,189
Mexico	2,308,306	2,712,850
Cuba	3,757,909	11,341,502
Other West Indies and Bermuda	24,729,357	18,470.214
Argentina	1,192,693	2,166,238
Brazil	8,986,273	7,383,315
Chile	10,593,112	10,058,295
Colombia	17,813,021	14,389,475
Venezuela	10,910,019	6,115,924
Other South America	5,957,781	5,661,271
Chinese Empire	178,076,314	208,072,917
British East Indies	7,580,419	4,296,128
Hong-Kong	562,288	296,913
Japan	297,231	7,109,827
British Australasia	3,939,666	4,855,549
Philippine Islands	3,671,348	7,702,270
Other Asia and Oceania	35,790,085	22,668,264
British Africa	5,254,467	5,435,097
All other Africa	351,311	611,329
Total quantity ... ... Yards	355,091,098	373,087,218
Total value ... ... Dols.	18,549,818	22,019,619
Other cotton goods—	Dollars.	Dollars.
United Kingdom	868,650	1,136,573
Belgium	89,901	88,374
France	14,167	10,559
Germany	1,126,369	763,717
Netherlands	25,153	26,558
Other Europe	83,650	83,451
British North America	1,981,486	2,237,132
Central America and British Honduras	388,949	552,190
Mexico	399,384	489,424
Cuba	214,868	334,685
Other West Indies and Bermuda	278,242	224,865
Argentina	126,587	196,923
Brazil	98,421	85,861
Chile	23,005	16,430
Colombia	105,640	99,976
Venezuela	27,410	33,427
Other South America	47,001	39,368
Chinese Empire	27,437	73,182
British East Indies	8,632	11,160
Hong-Kong	29,908	51,247
British Australasia	357,981	425,454
Philippine Islands	46,772	63,085
Other Asia and Oceania	84,891	185,634
British Africa	198,335	136,229
All other Africa	12,402	9,166
Other countries	7,277	3,566
Total value ... ... Dols.	6,672,518	7,378,235
Grand total value of all cotton goods exported...	25,222,336	29,397,854

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AGRICULTURE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Corn Prices.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 7th January, 1905, were as follow:—

Wheat	30*s.* 4*d.*
Barley	24*s.* 4*d.*
Oats	16*s.* 3*d.*

For further particulars see p. 87.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

A statement is published on p. 88, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 7th January, 1905, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1904.

RUSSIA.

Flour Export to the United Kingdom.

The British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. H. Cooke) reports that Mr. A. Radzig,* writing to the official "Commercial and Industrial Gazette" of St. Petersburg, urges that now, owing to failure of the wheat crop in the United States, is the time for Russian flour millers to export to the British market. British importers, he states, have already applied to the Trade Department of the Ministry of Finance for the addresses of Russian exporters. The difficulty, he explains, is the practical impossibility, under existing transport conditions in Russia, of despatching flour at regular or fixed terms of delivery, as demanded by the British importer. In 1900 a big Saratoff firm had to decline a contract with a London importer, owing to the impossibility of obtaining sufficient trucks. The same difficulty attends the efforts of port flour mills, unable to get their grain at definite periods.

Russian grain mills number over 1,800, working up to 400,000,000 pouds (6,448,400 tons) of grain into a like sum of roubles, an industry of far greater significance than the iron and coal industries combined. While the latter, urges the writer, can always obtain sufficient trucks, the flour mills, dealing in a much more perishable commodity, have to decline business with Great Britain from want of the same.

* This gentleman, says Mr. Cooke, is well known in Russia for his writings on economic subjects.

NETHERLANDS—DUTCH COLONIES.

Cotton Cultivation.

The "Dépêche Coloniale" states that the Association formed for the encouragement of cotton cultivation in the Dutch Colonies have recently issued a circular which contains the following information on that subject.

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Agriculture.

The Resident in Banjermasin has been requested by the Dutch Colonial Minister to have experiments carried out with a view to growing *kapas rampit* in that province.

The Association have received a specimen of *kapas benar*, an annual plant cultivated by the inhabitants of Borneo. The staple of this is short and coarse, but it is hoped that improvements in the methods of cultivation may remedy these defects. The Association have requested the Government to send an expert to Borneo to study the possibilities of the improvement of *kapas benar*.

Trials made in Sumatra have been successful, and a consignment of cotton grown in this island will shortly be forwarded to Holland.

Mr. Bruyn, who has recently returned from Paramaribo, has submitted to the Association five samples of cotton grown in the Dutch West Indies. This is said to be of excellent quality, worthy to rank with the best "Sea Island," the staple being remarkably long. Mr. Bruyn is of opinion that cotton could undoubtedly be cultivated with success in Surinam if experts were despatched to superintend the work and the necessary funds were provided from Holland.

MISCELLANEOUS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Cotton Statistics.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 5th January, 1905, was 148,801 (including 297 bales British West African and 18 bales British West Indian), the number exported being 17,257.

For further details see p. 87.

A return showing the number of bales of cotton imported and exported, forwarded from ports to Inland towns, and returned to ports during the month and twelve months ended 31st December last, will be found on p. 86.

Emigration.

The number of emigrants that left the United Kingdom during the month of December, 1904, was 23,882, as compared with 16,608 during the corresponding month of 1903.

For further details see p. 89.

Alien Immigration.

The number of aliens arriving at ports in the United Kingdom during December, 1904, was 14,702, and during the twelve months ending 31st December, 195,300.

Detailed statistics of alien immigration will be found on p. 90.

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Miscellaneous.

NEW ZEALAND.

Import Trade in 1903-4.

The subjoined table, giving particulars of the quantities of a few important classes of goods imported into the four principal ports of New Zealand during the twelvemonths ended the 30th September last, with comparative figures for the preceding year, is extracted from the "New Zealand Trade Review" of 23rd November:—

		1902-3.	1903-4.
Candles	lbs.	2,203,770	2,507,533
Cement	brls.	121,633	146,594
Currants	lbs.	2,518,006	2.179,809
Raisins	"	2,356,398	2,643,824
Other dried fruit	"	1,440,370	1,420,813
Iron—			
Bar, bolt and rod	tons	11,928	12,876
Corrugated sheet	cwt.	232,592	254,849
Fencing wire	tons	5,066	5,754
Barbed wire	"	3,121	2,664
Kerosene	gals.	3,682,434	3,781,215
Rice	cwt.	58,229	65,751
Salt	tons	13,220	12,090
Tea	lbs.	4,944,841	5,325,384
Tobacco	"	1,664,932	1,764,094
Cigarettes	"	215,929	174,790
Apparel and slops	£	510,037	534,756
Boots and shoes	£	213,738	245,840
Cotton manufactures	£	482,914	484,985
Drapery	£	449,257	445,720
Woollen piece goods	£	368,813	380,647
Bicycles and materials	£	158,210	171,555

BELGIUM.

Institution of a Belgian-Chinese Chamber of Commerce.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Minister at Brussels (Sir C. Phipps, K.C.M.G.) notifying that a Belgian-Chinese Chamber of Commerce has recently been constituted in that city.

CHILE.

New Law Respecting Insurance Cos.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Santiago (Sir Berry Cusack-Smith, K.C.M.G.) forwarding a translation of a new Law respecting Insurance Companies, which has recently been passed by the Chilean Congress.

The translation may be seen on application at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

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STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.—December, 1904.

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported, Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns, and Returned to Ports during the Month and Twelve Months ended 31st December, 1904, compared with the corresponding Period of the Year 1903.

	Month of December.		Twelve Months ended 31st December.	
	1904.	1903.	1904.	1903.
	Imports.			
American	707,012	519,575	3,157,833	2,837,508
Brazilian	4,117	6,886	93,258	164,803
East Indian	2,623	3,351	196,522	164,469
Egyptian	77,302	83,683	449,457	433,758
Miscellaneous	6,791*	4,225	95,388	69,834
Total	797,845	617,720	3,992,458	3,670,867
	Exports.			
American	32,039	25,665	218,863	291,373
Brazilian	500	850	5,242	40,789
East Indian	751	4,807	76,584	73,620
Egyptian	10,509	10,968	80,423	96,504
Miscellaneous	510	591	7,722	9,582
Total	44,309	42,881	388,834	511,868
	Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns.			
American	284,049	245,318	2,461,340	2,480,976
Brazilian	3,651	4,748	78,191	125,552
East Indian	2,227	3,275	84,616	58,174
Egyptian	41,037	41,403	316,343	289,402
Miscellaneous	3,633	5,308	46,614	57,831
Total	334,597	300,052	2,987,604	3,006,935
	Forwarded from Inland Towns to Ports.			
American	121	245	3,253	6,380
Brazilian	—	—	—	—
East Indian	—	—	—	—
Egyptian	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	—	—	4	77
Total	121	245	3,257	6,457

* Including 1,485 bales British West African and 6 bales British West Indian.

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Cotton Returns—*continued.*

Return of the **Number** of **Bales** of **Cotton Imported** and **Exported** at the **Various Ports** of the **United Kingdom** during the Week ended 5th January, 1905.

	Week ended 5th Jan., 1905.	Week ended 5th Jan., 1905.
	IMPORTS. (Bales.)	EXPORTS. (Bales.)
	No.	No.
American ...	131,563	13,672
Brazilian ...	—	—
East Indian	1,115	50
Egyptian ...	10,614	3,535
Miscellaneous	5,509*	—
Total...	148,801	17,257

* Including 297 bales British West African and 18 bales British West Indian.

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the **Average Price** of **British Corn**, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 7th January, 1905, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 7th January, 1905 ...	30	4	24	4	16	3
Corresponding week in—						
1898 ...	35	0	27	8	17	4
1899 ...	27	2	28	2	17	1
1900 ...	25	11	25	5	16	3
1901 ...	26	7	25	6	17	3
1902 ...	27	8	26	7	20	0
1903 ...	24	11	24	1	17	0
1904 ...	26	6	22	6	15	7

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

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Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 7th January, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

		Week ending 7th January	
		1905.	1904.
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number.	8,943	9,678
Sheep and lambs	"	6,172	9,315
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	82	224
Fresh Meat :—			
Beef	Cwts.	52,882	85,993
Mutton	"	66,577	82,429
Pork	"	14,251	18,345
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Cwts.	92,099	110,016
Beef	"	1,770	2,997
Hams	"	18,480	21,466
Pork	"	3,204	4,784
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ...	"	7,288	10,835
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting...	"	24,432	21,170
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwts.	91,640	83,027
Margarine	"	13,653	15,942
Cheese	"	82,177	26,860
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	—
" cream	"	55	135
" condensed	"	14,024	15,319
" preserved, other kinds...	"	30	18
Eggs	Grt. Hundr.	258,867	288,881
Poultry	Value £	25,901	34,442
Game	"	2,174	2,409
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	Cwts.	13,066	8,804
Lard	"	31,837	41,936
Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—			
Wheat	Cwts.	1,954,600	1,449,858
Wheat meal and flour	"	148,700	516,844
Barley	"	398,700	516,911
Oats	"	300,400	278,433
Peas	"	29,450	34,090
Beans	"	27,710	21,300
Maize or Indian corn	"	786,300	602,278
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Cwts.	61,279	75,608
Apricots and peaches	"	1	84
Bananas	Bunches.	45,526	52,640
Cherries	Cwts	—	—
Currants...	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	—	—
Grapes	"	282	75
Lemons	"	23,046	21,289
Oranges	"	186,286	166,250
Pears	"	435	72
Plums	"	—	—
Strawberries	"	—	—
Unenumerated	"	553	911
Hay...	Tons.	1,848	3,605
Straw	"	2,165	2,600
Moss Litter	"	1,811	—
Hops	Cwts.	4,628	11,485
Locust Beans	"	37,100	11,280
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels.	84,895	104,337
Potatoes	Cwts.	20,400	119,737
Tomatoes	"	8,982	8,661
Unenumerated	Value £	5,495	7,981
Vegetables, dried	Cwts.	1 662	6,035
Preserved by canning...	"	3,200	5,564

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Emigration.—December, 1904.

Return of the **Numbers, Nationalities,** and ***Destinations** of the **Passengers** that left the **United Kingdom** for **Places** out of **Europe** during the Month ended **31st** December, 1904, and the twelve Months ended 31st December, 1904, compared with the corresponding periods of the previous Year.

Nationality.	British Empire.						Foreign Countries.			Grand Total.	*Total for corresponding Period of 1903.*
	British North America.	Australia and New Zealand.	British South Africa.	India, including Ceylon.	Other British Colonies and Possessions.	Total.	United States.	Other Foreign Countries.	Total.		
	Month ended 31st December.										
English	1,168	614	1,338	384	464	3,968	3,143	410	3,553	7,521	*6,769*
Scotch	108	134	283	14	27	566	732	62	794	1,360	*1,365*
Irish	41	54	54	1	2	152	922	8	930	1,082	*707*
Total of British origin.	1,317	802	1,675	399	493	4,686	4,797	480	5,277	9,963	*8,841*
Foreigners	1,062	43	392	7	20	1,524	11,516	223	11,739	13,263	*7,246*
Nationalities not distinguished	1	—	—	164	199	364	90	202	292	656	*521*
Total	2,380	845	2,067	570	712	6,574	16,403	905	17,308	23,882	*16,603*
Total for corresponding period, 1903 ...	*2,805*	*906*	*2,881*	*597*	*494*	*7,684*	*8,194*	*730*	*8,924*	*16,608*	
	Twelve Months ended 31st December.										
English	54,107	10,966	20,992	4,337	4,100	94,502	76,854	4,585	81,439	175,941	*177,581*
Scotch	12,720	1,721	4,530	355	269	19,595	17,092	685	17,777	37,372	*36,801*
Irish	2,917	1,075	1,159	54	39	5,244	52,851	213	53,064	58,308	*46,568*
Total of British origin.	69,744	13,762	26,681	4,746	4,408	119,341	146,797	5,483	152,280	271,621	*259,950*
Foreigners	21,917	289	5,450	195	272	28,123	143,649	2,084	145,733	173,856	*181,539*
Nationalities not distinguished	76	6	2	2,140	2,263	4,487	1,352	2,215	3,567	8,054	*7,517*
Total	91,737	14,057	32,133	7,081	6,943	151,951	291,798	9,782	301,580	453,531	*449,006*
Total for corresponding period, 1903 ...	*99,582*	*12,573*	*62,824*	*6,532*	*7,050*	*188,561*	*251,941*	*8,504*	*260,445*	*449,006*	

* The destinations given are, in all cases, based on the ports at which the passengers contracted to land.

NOTE.—The above figures being made up at the earliest possible date after the close of each month, are subject to correction in the Annual Returns.

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Alien Immigration—December.

Statement of the Number of **Aliens** that **Arrived** from the Continent at Ports† in the **United Kingdom** during the Month and Twelve Months ended 31st December, 1904, compared with the corresponding periods of the previous Year.

(Compiled from the Alien Lists received by the Customs under Act 6 Will. 4, c. 11, sec. 2.)

—	Hamburg, Bremen, and Bremerhaven.		Rotterdam, Amsterdam, and Antwerp.		Scandinavian Ports.		Finnish Ports.		Libau.		Dieppe.		Other Continental Ports.		Total.	
	1904.	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904	1903
	Month ended 31st December.															
Aliens not described in the Alien Lists as *en route* to places out of the United Kingdom:*																
Arrived at London ...	2,891	1,452	1,662	850	100	39	2	...	971	848	...	...	397	117	6,023	3,306
" Grimsby ...	1,313	352	156	109	96	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,565	476
" Hull ...	136	38	156	94	113	58	53	53	46	...	...	...	9	27	513	278
" Tyne Ports	19	26	14	27	259	273	...	19	...	...	...	...	3	21	295	366
" Leith ...	68	17	29	36	12	10	...	...	...	...	..	...	15	4	124	67
" Newhaven	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	785	797	...	...	785	797
" Other ports	18	16	42	25	72	117	1	...	...	...	...	...	315	353	448	511
Total	4,445	1,901	2,059	1,141	652	512	56	72	1,017	848	785	797	739	522	‡9,753	‡5,793
Aliens described in the Alien Lists as *en route* to places out of the United Kingdom:																
Arrived at Grimsby ...	156	68	1,089	533	437	186	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,682	787
" Harwich ...	...	...	...	...	137	138	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	137	138
" Hull ...	70	238	426	518	375	407	1,694	321	179	273	...	...	...	14	2,744	1,771
" Other ports	...	...	73	180	41	136	...	44	...	...	20	5	252	78	386	443
Total	226	306	1,588	1,231	990	867	1,694	365	179	273	20	5	252	92	4,949	3,139
Total of Aliens arrived ...	4,671	2,207	3,647	2,372	1,642	1,379	1,750	437	1,196	1,121	805	802	991	614	‡14,702	‡8,932
	Twelve Months ended 31st December.															
Aliens not described in the Alien Lists as *en route* to places out of the United Kingdom:* Total No.	29,107	24,508	22,627	14,759	11,125	10,887	898	973	7,655	6,580	14,785	14,400	9,527	10,493	‡95,724	‡82,604
Aliens described in the Alien Lists as *en route* to places out of the United Kingdom: Total No.	5,729	5,881	24,909	21,441	49,392	70,618	9,530	17,003	6,293	4,811	78	35	3,645	4,802	99,576	124,591
Total of Aliens arrived ...	34,836	30,389	47,536	36,200	60,517	81,505	10,428	17,976	13,948	11,391	14,863	14,435	13,172	15,295	195,300 ‡	207,191 ‡

* *The distinction made in this Return between "Aliens not described in the Alien Lists as* en route *to places out of the United Kingdom," and "Aliens described in the Alien Lists as* en route, *&c.," is due to the fact that a large number of Aliens who arrive from Continental ports are reported to be on the way to places out of the United Kingdom, and it is considered desirable to record this fact. But it is not thereby implied that the "Aliens not described in the Alien Lists as* en route, *&c.," come to this country for settlement, there being in fact a large emigration of foreigners from this country, while many of the Aliens arriving from Continental ports return to the Continent.* (See *Annual Report on Emigration and Immigration, No.* 145, *Sess.* 1904, *and Monthly Emigration Returns.*)

† The ports from which Alien Lists are received are Aberdeen, Belfast, Blyth, Bristol, Cardiff, Dover, Dublin, Folkestone, Glasgow, Goole, Grangemouth, Granton, Greenock, Grimsby, Harwich, Hull, Kirkcaldy, Leith, Liverpool, London, Middlesbrough, Newcastle, Newhaven, Newport, North Shields, South Shields, Southampton, Sunderland, and West Hartlepool. The lists received from Dover, Folkestone, Harwich, Newhaven, and Southampton show only deck passengers and persons who, after landing, proceed by train as third-class passengers.

‡ The number of sailors included with the Aliens who arrived at ports in the United Kingdom not *en route* to places out of the United Kingdom in the month of December, 1904, was 1,023 and 905 in the same month of 1903; in the twelve months ended December, 1904, the number was 12,850, and in the same months of 1903 the number was 13,432.

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GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of December, 1904, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance of 1*s.* per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1903, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s.* 1*d.* for the first, and 5*s.* for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1899–1903, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade on the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appeared in the number issued on the 16th December:—State of the Labour Market in November; Trade Unions in 1903; Co-operative Production; Relief of the Unemployed and Wages of Seamen, 1880-1903.

FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in Consular Reports of the **Annual and Miscellaneous Series** issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

ANNUAL.

No. 3,320. Foreign Trade of Italy for 1903.

Both imports and exports, excluding precious metals, show a higher total than has ever been reached by Italian trade in any preceding year.

Detailed examination of exports and imports.

Value of coal imported amounted to 5,657,759*l.*; with the exception of 400,000 tons, the whole of this supply comes from the United Kingdom.

On the whole, the trade with the United Kingdom shows a tendency to decline, especially in the case of exports from Italy.

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Government Publications.

MISCELLANEOUS.

No. 624. Memorandum on German Cement.

Remarkable expansion of German cement industry and consequent over-production.

Sketch of growth of the industry, which only dates back to 1852.

Statistics and destination of exports for the years 1901–03.

Attempts to reconstitute the Cement Trust, which collapsed in 1900, have not proved successful.

OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

Colonies (Preferential Trade). Papers relating to resolutions passed by Colonial Legislatures since 1890 *in favour of Preferential Trade Relations with the United Kingdom.* [*Cd.* 2,326.] *Price* 3*d.*

This return comprises the replies addressed by the Governors of certain Colonies to a circular issued by the Secretary of State for the Colonies asking for copies of resolutions passed by Colonial legislatures in favour of preferential trade relations between the Colonies and the United Kingdom. The replies show that preferential tariff treatment is already accorded to British goods in Canada, New Zealand, and South Africa, and that the House of Assembly in Bermuda has recommended the appointment of a committee to consider what tariff changes would be necessary in order to accord preferential treatment to British produce and manufacture.

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Government Publications.

LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since 1st January, 1904, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

No.	Place.	Price
	EUROPE—	
	Austria-Hungary:	
3199	Austria-Hungary ...1903	1½*d.*
3255	Bohemia ... ... „	1*d.*
3297	Bosnia and Herzegovina „	1*d.*
3260	Fiume ... ... „	1*d.*
3233	Trieste and Lissa ... „	2*d.*
	Belgium:	
3125	Antwerp: Shipping and Navigation 1903	1*d.*
3116	Belgium: Finances and Commerce in 1902 and Budget Estimates for 1904	2*d.*
3275	Belgium 1903	2½*d.*
604	*Canals and other Navigable Waterways of Belgium* ...	*11½d.*
612	*Customs Tariff of Belgium*	*1d.*
	Bulgaria:	
3236	Bulgaria 1903	1*d.*
	Denmark:	
3113	Denmark (Supplementary) 1902	½*d.*
3119	Denmark (Financial condition)	1½*d.*
3180	Denmark 1903	3½*d.*
3138	Iceland... ... 1900–02	1½*d.*
	France and French Colonies:	
3226	Algeria 1903	2½*d.*
3246	Bastia ... ... „	½*d.*
3184	Bordeaux ... ... „	2½*d.*
3176	Brest ... ... „	1½*d.*
3146	Calais ... ... „	2½*d.*
3149	Cherbourg ... ... „	2½*d.*
3181	Cochin-China ... ... „	2*d.*
3310	Dahomey ... ... „	½*d.*
3216	Dunkirk ... ... „	1½*d.*
3301	France: 1903, and 8 months of 1904	1½*d.*
3172	French Budget for 1904	2*d.*
3313	French Guinea ...1903	1*d.*
3171	Havre ... ... „	3*d.*
3117	Indo-China 1902	1*d.*
3164	„ „ ... 1903–04	1*d.*
3316	Ivory Coast 1903	1*d.*
3243	Lyons, St. Etienne, and Grenoble ... ... „	1*d.*
3254	Madagascar 1903	1½*d.*
3230	Marseilles ... ... „	2½*d*
3300	Martinique ... ... „	1*d.*
3130	Nantes ... ... „	1*d.*
3201	Nice ... ... „	½*d.*
3147	Pondicherry & Karikal „	1*d.*
3312	Senegal... ... ... „	1*d.*
3289	Society Islands ... „	1½*d.*
	German Empire and Colonies:	
3196	Baden 1903	½*d.*
3145	Chemnitz ... ... „	4*d.*
3244	Dantzig... ... ... „	1½*d.*
3129	Estimates of the German Empire 1904	1*d.*
3221	Frankfort-on-Main ...1903	5½*d.*
3296	German Colonies ...1902–03	3*d.*
3153	Germany 1903	3*d.*
3287	Germany: First half of 1904	2½*d.*
3186	Hamburg ... ... „	3½*d.*
3137	Pomerania ... ... „	2*d.*
3198	Prussian Estimates, 1904–5	1*d.*
601	*Technical Instruction in Germany: Special Schools and Courses for Mechanical Engineering and Electro-Technics*	*4½d.*
602	*Textile Technical Schools in Germany: Development of the Textile Industries*...	*5d.*
603	*Technical Schools in Germany for Special Branches of the Metal Industries* ...	*3d.*
608	*Special Schools for Ship Engineers in Germany* ...	*2½d.*
609	*Technical Instruction in Naval Architecture and Engineering in Germany*..	*2½d.*
611	*Navigation Schools in Germany*	*1d.*
613	*Projected Rhine-Neckar-Danube Ship Canal* ...	*3d.*
615	*Special Technical Schools for the Ceramic Industries*	*1½d.*
616	*Fishing Trade of the Weser Seaports*	*1d.*
618	*Special Technical Schools for the Wood-working Industries*	*2d.*
619	*Commercial Instruction in Germany*	*5½d.*

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Government Publications.

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	Argentina:	
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The Commercial Intelligence Branch is also in communication with the Imperial Institute at South Kensington, of which Professor Wyndham Dunstan, F.R.S., has been appointed director by the Board of Trade. Among the branches of work in charge of Professor Dunstan are the scientific investigation of the economic products of the British Empire with a view to their commercial utilisation, and the superintendence of the arrangement and classification of the Collection of these products which are exhibited at the Institute. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room at 73, Basinghall Street.

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COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT, BOARD OF TRADE.

January, 1905.

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(Where no folio is given, Advertisement does not appear in this issue.)

Absorbent Blottings— PAGE

Tullis, R., & Co., Markinch, Fife .. 1

Adamantine Clinker (Regd.)—

Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham .. ..

Admiralty Charts—

Potter, J. D., 145, Minories 24

Agents (Colonial & Foreign)—

Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., London, E.C. ..

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Deakes & Co., Strand, London 6

Alkali Manufacturers—

Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire .. ..

United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ..

Alloys—

Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ..

Ammonia, Anhydrous, & Liquid— PAGE

Brotherton & Co., Leeds (Carbonate of Ammonia, Muriate of Ammonia, &c.) .. ..

Ammonia (Anhydrous), Valves for—

Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow .. ..

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Bags and Sacks— PAGE

Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool .. ..

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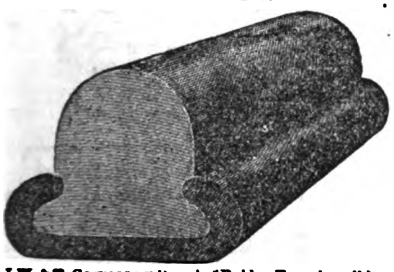

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PAGE

Binoxide of Barium—
Bessler, Waechter & Co., 18 & 19, Fenchurch Street, E.C. .. .. ..
Hedworth Barium Co., Ld., Newcastle..

Bird Seeds and Foods—
Hyde, R., & Co., London, S.E. 14

Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, J., & Son, 55, City Road, E.C...

Biscuit Manufacturers—
Hubbard, Walter, Partick, Glasgow, Export Agent—J. S. Morrison, Son, & Jones, Peninsular Buildings, London, E.C. .. ..

Blankets—Cotton—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Limited, Manchester .. .. Cover

Bleaching Powder—
Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire .. ..
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ..

Blue Manufacturers—
Edge, Wm., & Sons, Ltd., Bolton ..

Boiler Incrustation (Prevention and Removal of)—
The Boilerine Manufacturing Co., Old Kent Road, S.E. .. .. ..
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ..

PAGE

Boiler Makers—
Butterley Co. (The), Ltd., Derby
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton .. ..
Garrett, R., & Son, Ltd., Leiston, R.S.O ..
Hartley & Sugden, Limited, Halifax ..
Marriott & Graham, Govan, N.B. ..

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Perlam, Herb. W., B'ngham (Screws, Rivets, Washers, Nails (Roofing)) ..

Bone Mill Manufacturers—
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable .. ..

Boots and Shoes—
Lewis, C. & E., Northampton 8

Bottled Fruits—
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading..

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Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ..

Brassfounders—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ..

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Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn .. ..

Brass Scrap Merchants—
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Baker, Joseph & Sons, London, E.C. .

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Craig, J. & M., Ld., Kilmarnock (Enamelled and Glazed Bricks, Glazed Wall Tiles) .. ..
Pearson, E. J. & J., Stourbridge
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham .. ..
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ld., Hanley, Stafs

Brickmaking Machinery—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ld., Hanley, Stafs

Bronze Manufacturers—
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Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C.

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Button Manufacturers— PAGE

Smith & Wright, Ltd., Birmingham ..

Cables and Wires—

Connolly Bros., Ltd., Blackley, Manchester .. ..

Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Limited, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. .. ..

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Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow .. ..

Carboys—

Bruff, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks .. ..

Carpets and Rugs—

Burton, J. E., & Sons, Kidderminster.. 2

Carriage Builders—

Forder & Co., Ltd., Warrant Holders to H.M. the King, Upper St Martin's Lane, W.C.; Works, Wolverhampton .. ..

Cartridge Manufacturers— PAGE

Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow ..

Cement Manufacturers—

Peters Brothers, London, S.W... .. 3

West Kent Portland Cement Co., Burham, near Rochester 6

Charm Manufacturers—

Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C. 20

Chemical Manufacturers—

Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ..

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Blythe, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs .. ..

Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., Northwich Cheshire .. ..

Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith ..

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Miller, Jas., Son, & Co., Glasgow ..

The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan .. .. ..

United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ..

Chemical Manure Manufacturers—

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Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B...

Fison, Joseph, & Co., Ltd., Ipswich..

Richards, G. H., 234, Borough High Street, S.E. .. .. ..

United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ..

Chemical & Physical Apparatus—

Reynolds & Branson, Ltd., Leeds

Chemists (Manufacturing)— PAGE

Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. .. ..

Scott & Bowne, Ltd., London, E. (Scott's Emulsion) .. ..

Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark-street, London, S.E. .. ..

Chilled Shot—

The Abbey Improved Chilled Shot Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne .. ..

Chimney Cowl Makers—

Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester .. .. ..

Chimney Shaft, &c., Builder and Repairer—

Lewis, Joseph, 5 & 6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. .. .. ..

China Clay—

Lovering, John, & Co., St. Austell 4

China Door Furniture Mnfrs.—

Bullers Ltd., London, E.C. .. ..

China Electrical Fittings—

Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C. .. ..

China Manufacturers—

Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C.

Lovering, John, & Co., St. Austell, Cornwall 4

Chronometers—

Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C. .. 20

Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 & 34, Cockspur Street, London 19

Cardiff Railway Company, Bute Docks, Cardiff.

Chairman, Lord Edmund Talbot, M.P. *Managing Director*, Sir William Thomas Lewis, Bart. *Superintendent*, James Hurman.

AREA, etc.—The present BUTE DOCKS are 111 acres in extent, and vessels loading up to 12,000 tons regularly trade there.

The NEW SOUTH DOCK, which is rapidly approaching completion, will have a water area of 50 acres. It is 2,550 feet in length, 800 feet in breadth, and 50 feet in depth from the coping; and will be capable of accommodating the LARGEST VESSELS AFLOAT. The Sea Lock will be 850 FEET IN LENGTH, and 90 FEET IN BREADTH, with a depth of water over the cill of 42 FEET at ordinary spring tides, and 32 FEET at ordinary neap tides. Two Large Graving Docks, up to 850 FEET IN LENGTH, and entered from THIS DOCK, are about to be constructed.

MACHINERY AND APPLIANCES.—The Bute Docks are equipped with the most IMPROVED Appliances for the discharging and loading of vessels with dispatch; the greater portion being worked by HYDRAULIC PRESSURE. There is an ample equipment of Cranes of various power up to 70 TONS, as well as Grain Elevators, &c., &c.

Special attention may be drawn to the NEW 70-TON CRANE in the BOATH DOCK, thus enabling THE CARDIFF RAILWAY COMPANY to ship or unship THE HEAVIEST WEIGHTS.

COAL SHIPPING FACILITIES.—Coal is being shipped at these Docks by the ordinary Fixed, as well as Moveable Staiths; as also by the LEWIS-HUNTER PATENT COALING CRANES. The Cardiff Railway Company have the EXCLUSIVE use in the Bristol Channel of the LEWIS HUNTER Coaling Cranes, which have proved by far the most satisfactory appliances for shipping Welsh Coal, with dispatch and the Least Possible Breakage. Colliery screened coal shipped by these cranes being equal to double screened coal shipped by ordinary Staiths, and thereby ensuring to the purchaser an INCREASED VALUE OF AT LEAST ONE SHILLING per ton over that of coal put on board by shipping appliances at other Docks, besides ensuring great SAVING IN BREAKAGE and uniformity of distribution throughout the cargo of any small coal that might exist; thus minimising any risk of spontaneous ignition from small coal in cargoes bound for distant ports. THREE OR MORE CRANES can be worked simultaneously into one vessel, and as much as 330 TONS have been shipped by one crane in an hour, and 4,773 TONS have been shipped into a vessel in 10 HOURS. Shippers attach so much importance to the advantages of these Cranes that they frequently elect to wait some time for a CRANE BERTH rather than have their coal shipped by the usual staiths.

The NEW SOUTH DOCK will be entirely equipped with these COALING CRANES, in deference to the wishes of so many shippers and buyers of CARDIFF COAL.

WAREHOUSES AND TRANSIT SHEDS.—Good accommodation for the storage of GRAIN, PROVISIONS, &c., &c., BONDED AND FREE.

WHARF SPACE AND YARDS.—Large provision is made for stacking Timber, Deals, Iron Ore, &c. Timber Ponds, 28 ACRES in extent, with COMPETITIVE RAILWAY COMMUNICATION TO ALL PARTS.

FACILITIES FOR SHIP REPAIRS, etc.—There are 10 PRIVATE GRAVING AND FLOATING DOCKS, ranging up to 800 feet in length, with SEPARATE PROPRIETARIES, and one PUBLIC GRAVING DOCK 600 FEET in length. There are also several MARINE ENGINEERING FIRMS, thus giving Shipowners an opportunity of obtaining tenders for repairs of every description.

RAILWAY ACCOMMODATION.—CARDIFF is the NATURAL PORT for BIRMINGHAM and the MIDLAND DISTRICT, as the London & North Western, Midland, and Great Western Railway Companies have direct communication from the Ship's Side.

DOCK CHARGES.—These are much below the average of our Great Ports. Vessels can generally procure an outward cargo to any PORT in the WORLD, thus giving the Bute Docks an advantage for Imports, as vessels do not require to change Ports.

TRADE.—The BUTE DOCKS were opened in the year 1839, and the IMPORTS and EXPORTS in 1902 were as follows:—Imports, 2,117,510 TONS; Exports, 7,684,087 TONS; Total, 9,801,597 TONS.

CATTLE IMPORTATION.—The BUTE DOCKS are the ONLY DOCKS in South Wales which have permission from the BOARD OF TRADE to land FOREIGN CATTLE. Excellent CATTLE LAIRS, SLAUGHTER HOUSES, and CHILL ROOMS are erected adjacent to the Wharf in the deepest-water dock, with Railways leading into them, having communication with all PARTS.

COLD STORAGE.—Ample Accommodation of the most modern description is provided for the storage of dead meat, poultry, provisions, vegetables, &c.

STATUS OF CARDIFF.—CARDIFF now occupies the position of being the FIRST PORT in the UNITED KINGDOM for shipping cleared to FOREIGN COUNTRIES and BRITISH POSSESSIONS and the PREMIER PORT in the WORLD for the SHIPMENT OF COAL.

NOTE.—The Bute Docks are the only Docks situated in the Town of Cardiff. Vessels using the Bute Docks thereby save their owners and Captains from loss of time in making journeys between the Vessels and the Merchants' and Brokers' Offices, Banks, Custom House, Post Office, &c., all of which Offices are adjacent to the Bute Docks.

The fullest information on all matters will be readily granted on application to the

CARDIFF RAILWAY COMPANY, BUTE DOCKS, CARDIFF.

THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Clocks and Watches— PAGE
Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 & 34, Cockspur Street, London .. ..
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London E.C...

Cloth Finishing Machines—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee .. ..

Clothing (Fustian)—
Brown, R. B., & Sons, Hebden Bridge

Clothing Manufacturers (Fustian)—
Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge.. ..

Clothing and Woollen Mnfrs.—
Grainger & Smith, Dudley .. ..

Cloths for Machinery—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury .. ..

Clutch Manufacturers—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks .. ..

Coal and Coke—
Cannock Chase Colliery Co., Limited, Birmingham .. ..
Cory Bros., & Co., Ltd., Cardiff.. .. 13
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. .. ..
Wharncliffe Woodmoor Colliery Co. Ltd., Barnsley .. ..
Wigan Coal and Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan

Coal Depot Proprietors— PAGE
Cory Bros., & Co., Cardiff.. 13
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. .. ..

Coal Screening Plant—
Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield ..

Coatings—Cotton—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Limited, Manchester .. .. Cover

Cocoa and Chocolate Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C...

Coffee Mill Manufacturers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C...

Colliery Engines—
Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield ..

Colliery Owners—
Cannock Chase Colliery Co., The, Ltd., Birmingham .. ..
Cory Bros., & Co., Cardiff.. .. 13
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. .. ..
Wharncliffe Woodmoor Colliery Co., Ltd., Barnsley .. .. ..

Colour Manufacturers— PA
Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen .. ..
Levinstein, Limited, Manchester ..
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ..
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C. .. Co
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. .. ..

Composition for Bottoms of Ships—
Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen .. ..
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton

Compressed Gases (Fittings for)—
Scotch & Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow

Concertinas (English)—
Lachenal & Co., Little James Street, W.C. .. ..

Confectioners—
Craven, M. A., & Son, Ebor Confectionery Works, York .. .. ..

Confectioners' Colours, Essences, &c.—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. .. ..
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours and Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., Hackney Wick, N.E. .. ..
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E.
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 26a, Southwark-street, London, S.E. .. ..

Confectioners (Manufacturing Wholesale and Export)—
Craven, M. A., & Son, Ebor Confectionery Works, York .. .. ..

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(J. & R. REDMAN, LTD.)

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Le Phénix for Balls.

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MOORGATE, LONDON, E.C.

Trade Mark

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SUNDRY ARTICLES.—Pneumatic Tyres, Tubes and Covers, Pencil and Ink Erasers, Bands, Bat Handles, Self-closing Tobacco Pouches.
SURGICAL GOODS.—Enemas, Injection Bottles, Ear and Nasal Syringes, Solid Rubber Air Cushions, Hot-water Bottles, &c., &c. [Battery Cells
VULCANITE ROD, SHEET & TUBE.—Combs, Pipe-Stems, Cigarette Holders, Hydrant B
SCREW STOPPERS and Shot-weighted Stoppers for mineral waters, also Washers, D and Codd's Rings.

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Coping and Paving Bricks— PAGE

Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley

Copper Tape, Wire Rope, &c.—

Connolly Bros., Ltd., Blackley, Manchester .. ..

Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Limited, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Corks—

Brettt, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks .. ..

Cotton Bagging—

Judge, T. & W., London, S.E. .. ..

Cotton Goods—

Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow 1

Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury 10

Spinner, E., & Co., Manchester .. Cover

Cotton Waste—

Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester .. ..

Cranes, Crab-Winches—

Russell, George, & Co., Motherwell, N.B. .. ..

Creosote— PAGE

United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ..

Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ..

Damp Wall Compositions—

Sacreimey & Co., London, S.E. .. ..

Decklights and Porthole Glasses—

Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Birmingham .. .. ..

Decorated Tin Plates—

The Tinplate Decorating Co., Ld., Neath ..

Decorative Tiles—

Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley

Delta Metal Manufacturers—

Delta Metal Co., Limited, London, E.C.

Disinfectants—

United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ..

Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ..

Disintegrators—

Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable .. ..

Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ..

Distillers—

Crawford, Daniel, & Son, Ltd., Glasgow ..

Dailuaine-Talisker Distilleries, Ltd., Carron Strathspey .. ..

Distillers Co., Ltd., The, Edinburgh ..

Docks (Floating) Caissons, &c.— PAGE

Cardiff Railway Co., The, Bute Docks, Cardiff; London Office, 21a, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W. 11

Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Co., Wyre Dock, Fleetwood .. .. ..

Door Furniture—

Bullers, Limited, London, E.C. .. ..

Drilling Machines—

Northern Engineering Co., Ltd., King's Cross, near Halifax .. .. ..

Drills—

Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson Limited, Manchester .. .. Cover

Dry Soap—

United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ..

Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ..

Dye Merchants—

Edge, Wm., Sons, & Co., Bolton ..

Edge Tools—

Thornton, G., & Co., Birmingham ..

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PARIS: 66, Rue Taitbout. *GENOA: 2, Via Ponte, Reale.*
Telegraphic Address, CARDIFF and LONDON—"CORY."

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Electrical Fittings (China)— PAGE

Bullers, Limited, London, E.C. ..

Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and Contractors—

Bullers, Limited, London, E.C... ..

Jaskell, A. E., & Co., Manchester ..

Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Limited, London, E.C. .. . ..

Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. .. ..

Lewis, Joseph, 5-6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Electric Bells—

Wright, Archibald J., Ltd., 318, Upper Street, London, N. .. .. ..

Electric Light Fittings—

Bullers, Limited, London, E.C... ..

Electric Novelties—

Wright, Archibald J., Ltd., 318, Upper Street, London, N. .. .. ..

Electrical Screws (Iron, Steel or Brass)—

Acme Lathe Co., Ltd., The, Ardwick, Manchester .. ..

Emery and Corundum Wheel Manufacturers— PAGE

London Emery Works Co., 58E, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Luke & Spencer, Limited, Broadheath, near Manchester .. ..

Emery and Glass Cloth—

London Emery Works Co., 58E, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Emery and Glass Paper—

London Emery Works Co., 58E, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Emery Grindg. Machine Mkrs.—

London Emery Works Co., 58E, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Luke & Spencer, Limited, Broadheath, Manchester .. ..

Emery Manufacturers—

London Emery Works Co., 58E, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Luke & Spencer, Limited, Broadheath, Manchester (Emery Wheel and Corundum Wheel Manufacturers) .. ..

Enamel Colours—

Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen .. ..

Enamelled Fire Clay Sinks— PAGE

Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ..

Encaustic Tiles—

Woolliscroft, G., & Sons, Limited, Hanley, Staffs. .. ..

Engine Cleaning Waste—

Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs. Manchester .. ..

Engineers—

Northern Engineering Co., Halifax ..

Engineers (Boilers)—

Riley, J. Ashton, Ltd., Manchester Road, Huddersfield .. .. ..

Engineers' Ironfounders—

Robertson & Orchar, Dundee (Machine Moulded Wheels).. .. .. ..

Whittingham & Porter, Hull .. ..

Wigan Coal and Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan..

Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse Yorkshire .. ..

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Engineers' Stores— PAGE
Wilson, W. H., & Co., Ld., London, S.E. ..

Engineers' Tool Makers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield .. ..
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ..

Engineers and Millwrights—
General—
Aveling & Porter, Rochester (Locomotives, Road Rollers, &c.) .. ..
Baird, W., & Co., Glasgow (Pig Iron, Coal, Coke, &c.) .. ..
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ..
Burrell, C., & Sons, Limited, Thetford (Locomotives, Steam Rollers, Traction Engines) .. ..
Chadlaw, Robert, Manchester .. ..
Day, Summers & Co., Ld., Southampton ..
Garrett, R., & Sons, Leiston, Suffolk ..
Grover & Co., Limited, London, N. ..
Howorth, J. & Co., Farnworth, Manchester 2
Lake & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (various forms of Engineers' Grinding and Polishing Machinery) ..
Marriott & Graham, Govan, Glasgow (Boiler Makers) .. ..
Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield ..
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ld., The, Reading and London .. .. ..
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee .. ..
Russell, G., & Co., Motherwell, N.B ..
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. .. .. ..
Spencer, Moulton & Co., Ltd., Bradford-on-Avon, Wilts .. ..
Whitaley, William, & Sons, Lockwood, Huddersfield .. ..
Whittingham & Porter, Hull .. ..
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorkshire .. ..

Engine Packings—
Wilson, W. H., & Co., Ld., London, S.E. ..

Engine-cleaning Waste—
Jones W. C., Ltd., Manchester ..

Engine Roll Bars—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Sheffield ..

Essence Manufacturers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. .. ..
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading ..
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours & Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., The, London, N.E. 22
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. .. 17
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E.
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark-street, London, S.E. .. ..

Essences, &c.— PAGE
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. .. ..
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark-street, London, S.E. .. ..

Essential Oils—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. .. ..
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E.
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark-street, London, S.E. .. ..

Exhibition Agents—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Exhibition Fitters—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Fancy Goods, Dealers in, Importers, Warehousemen and Manufacturers—
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ..

Fancywood Merchants—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool .. ..

Fan Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester 2

Feeding Stuffs (for Cattle & Sheep)—
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B. ..

Felts (Paper Makers' Machine)
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury 10

Fencing (Steel and Iron)—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards Ltd., Norwich .. ..

File Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield .. ..

Filter Manufacturers—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London .. ..

Fire Bricks—
Calder Fireclay Co., The, Coatbridge ..
Craig, J. & M., Limited, Kilmarnock ..
King Bros., Stourbridge 9
Pearson, E. J. & J., Stourbridge ..
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham .. ..

Fire Clay—
King Bros., Stourbridge 9
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham .. .. ..

Fire Clay Goods— PAGE
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Sinks) ..

Flag and Banner Manufactrs.—
Pigott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. .. 4

Flannel Manufacturers—
Kelsall & Kemp, Limited, Rochdale Cover
Spinner & Co., Manchester .. Cover

Flour Mill Engineers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ..

Flour Millers—
Appleby, Josh. & Sons, Ltd., Liverp'l ..
Vernon, W., & Sons, Liverpool .. ..

Forks—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ..

Forwarding Agents—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., 28, Lime Street, E.C. .. ..

Fruit Essence Manufacturers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. .. ..
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours and Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., London, N.E. 22
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E.
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark-street, London, S.E. .. ..

Furniture Trade Printers—
Smily & Shaw, London, E.C. 9

Fustian Clothing Manufacturers
Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge 12

Fustian (Piece Goods)—
Moss Bros. (Hebden Bridge), Ltd. .. 6

Galvanized Iron Manufctrs.—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham ..

Galvanized Wire Netting—
Barnard, Bishop, & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich .. ..

Garden Adornments—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C. 20

Garden Furniture—
Barnard, Bishop, & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich .. ..

Garden Requisite Manufacturer—
Richards, G. H., 234, Borough High Street, S.E. .. ..

Gas Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ld., Manchester ..

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Gas Furnaces—
Cannington, Shaw & Co., St. Helens, Lancashire .. ..

Gas Governors—
Shaw, Joseph, Huddersfield .. ..

Gas-Tight Motors—
Hodson Wright & Wood, Halifax ..

Gates, Railings, and Hurdles—
Barnard, Bishop, & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich .. ..

Gauge Glasses—
Butterworth Bros., Newton Heath, Manchester .. ..
Tomey & Sons, Perth .. ..
Tomey, Joseph, & Sons, Messrs., Ltd., Manor Glass Works, Aston, Birmingham .. ..

Gauge Glass Protectors—
Tomey, Joseph, & Sons, Messrs., Ltd., Manor Glass Works, Aston, Birmingham .. ..

Gear Cutter—
Chidlaw, Robert, 42, City Road, Manchester .. ..

Gelatines—
The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan .. ..

General Export Merchants—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E. 8

Gin Distillers—
Distillers Co., Ltd., The, Edinburgh ..
Hills & Underwood, London, E.C. ..

Girders (Iron and Steel)—
Scott, Walter, Ltd., Leeds .. ..

Glass and Emery Paper—
London Emery Works Co., London, E.C.

Glass Bottles—
Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks .. ..
Cannington, Shaw, & Co., Limited, St. Helens .. ..

Glass Case Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Glass Manufacturers—
Robinson, J. B., 21, Moor Lane, E.C. Cover
Stevens, James & Son, Birmingham ..

Glass Works—
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham ..

PAGE

Glazed Bricks—
Woolliscroft, G., & Sons, Limited Hanley, Staffs. .. ..

Glazed Fire Clay Sinks—
Craig, J. & M., Limited, Kilmarnock ..

Glaziers' Diamonds—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C. 20

Glues—
The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan .. ..

Glycerine—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Limited, London, S.W. .. ..

Golf Balls—
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Limited, London, E.C. ("Melfort" and "Henley") .. ..

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Hams and Bacon—
Nickson, G. & J., & Co., Ltd., Liverpool

Hand Looms—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ..

PAGE

Hardwood Merchants—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool .. ..

Hat Manufacturers—
Christy & Co., London, E.C. .. Cover

Heating & Ventilating Engineers—
Hartley & Sugden, Halifax (Boilers) ..
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Hoes—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ..
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Hollowware—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham ..

Hop Commissioners—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. 15

Hose—
Willcox, W.H., & Co., Ld., London, S.E. ..

Hose-Pipe Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ..

Hosiery—
Walker, R. & Sons, Rutland Street, Leicester 16

Hosiery & Finishing Machnry.—
Berridge, I. L., & Co., Leicester (Sole Proprietors, Griswold Knitters) ..

Hosiery Yarns—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford 9

Humidifier Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester 2

Hydraulic Engineers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C.

Hydraulic Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ..

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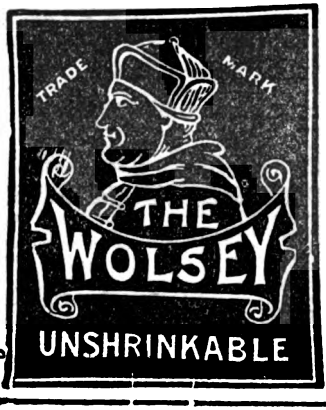

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Ice Machine Manufacturers— PAGE
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London .. ..

Incandescent Lamps—
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Limited, London, E.C. .. .. ..
Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. .. ..

India-rubber Goods—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C. 12

India-rubber Manufacturers—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C. 12
Harris, Joseph, Altrincham (Advertising Balloons, Squeakers, and Rubber Surgical Appliances) 21
India-Rubber, Gutta-Percha & Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C.

Injectors—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ld., London, S.E. ..

Ink Manufacturers—
Blackwell & Co., London, E.C. .. ..

Inkstands—
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Robertson & Orchar, Dundee .. ..
Saxby & Farmer, Canterbury Road London N.W. .. ..
Whittingham & Porter, Hull .. ..
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks... .. ..

Ironmasters— PAGE
Baird, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Gartsherrie, N.B. .. ..
Parkgate Iron and Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham .. ..
Whiteley & Sons, Ltd., Huddersfield ..

Ironstone Adamant Tiles—
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Wallace, Bailey & Wilkins, Bermondsey, London, S.E. .. .. ..

Lens Manufacturers for Ships and Railway Lamps—
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham..

Letter Cutters— PAGE
Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield .. ..

Lifts—
Clark, Bunnett, & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. .. ..
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ..

Lightning Conductor Manufacturer and Erector—
Lewis, Joseph, 5 & 6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Lime Juice—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. .. 17

Liquorice Wafers—
Hillabys', Limited, Pontefract .. ..

Lithographic Varnish—
Coates Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ..

Locomotive Engine Builders—
Aveling & Porter, Ltd., Rochester ..
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Robinson, J. B., 31, Moor Lane, E.C. Cover

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Robertson & Orchar, Dundee .. ..

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Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ld., London, S.E. ..

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Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury 10

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Machine Makers— PAGE
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee .. ..

Machine Screws, Bolts, Nuts, &c.—
Acme Lathe Co., Ltd., The, Ardwick, Manchester .. ..

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Military and Naval Ornaments—
Narborough, F., 40, 42, 44, Lombard Street, Birmingham .. ..
Wilkins, T. B., 52, Clement Street, Birmingham .. ..

Mine Owners— PAGE
Wigan Coal & Iron Co.,Ltd.,Wigan(Producers of Best House, Gas and Steam Coals, and Wigan Cannel) .. ..

Mineral Waters—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. .. 17

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Lachenal & Co., London, W.C. 6

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Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield .. ..

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Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool .. ..

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Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Oilcake (Linseed and Cotton)— PAGE
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B ..

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Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. .. ..

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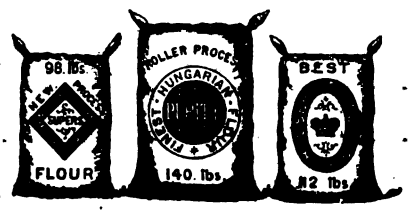

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Paper Makers— PAGE

Smith & McLaurin, Messrs., Ltd., Milliken Park, Scotland (Coated and Gummed Papers) .. ..
Tullis, R., & Co., Markinch, Fife .. 1

Paper Makers and Stationers (Wholesale and Export)—

Annandale, John, & Sons, Ltd., Shotley Grove, Durham .. .. .. Cover
Dickinson, J., & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. 3
Ford, T. B., Loudwater, High Wycombe (Blottings) .. ..
Hodgkinson, W. S., & Co., Wells Somerset .. .. Cover
Hollingworth & Co., Maidstone .. 3
Olive & Partington, Manchester Cover

Paper Makers' Steel & Bronze Tools—

Crookes, Roberts & Co., Arcu Works, Sheffield .. ..

Paper Makers' Tools—

Crookes, Roberts, & Co., Sheffield ..

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Phosphor Bronze—

Billington & Newton, Longport, Staffs...

Photographic Process—

Phototype Co., The, London, W.C. .. 1

Pianos, Organs, and Small Instruments— PAGE

Riley's on Constitution Hill, Birmingham .. ..

Pickles—

Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading..

Picks—

Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham

Pins (Toilet)—

Edridge, Merrett & Co., Ltd., Legge Street, Birmingham .. .. ..

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Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby.. ..

Plate Glass Manufacturers—

Robinson, J. B., London, E.C. .. Cover

Poles, Telegraph—

Bullers, Limited, London, E.C. ..

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Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E... ..

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West Kent Portland Cement Co., Burham, Rochester, Kent 6

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Sheppard & Co., Ltd., London, E.C ..
Smily & Shaw, London, E.C. 9

Printing Ink Manufacturers—

Blackwell & Co., London, E.C. ..
Coates Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ..

Proprietary Articles, Specialities, &c.— PAGE

Baumgartner, J. F., & Co., London, W. ("La Brillantine" Metallic Powder) .. ..
Dalmas, A. de St., & Co., Leicester (Medical Plaisters) .. .. ..
Henry's Calcined Magnesia (T. & W. Henry), Manchester .. .. ..
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Railway Appliances— PAGE
Saxby & Farmer, Limited, Canterbury Road, London, N.W. (Railway Signals, &c.) .. ..

Railway Brass Foundry—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Heath Mill Lane, Birmingham .. .. ..

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Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham .. ..
Perlam, H. W., Birmingham .. ..
Priest, B., & Sons, Oldhill, Staffs. ..

Roof Glazing—
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Roofing (Patent)—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N... ..

Roofing Tile Machinery—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs... .. ..

Roofing Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs .. ..

Rope Manufacturers—
Piggott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. .. 4

Rubber Tyres— PAGE
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N. 9

Sacks and Bags—
Judge, T. & W., London, E.C. (Cotton ..
Paiva, J de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool .. ..

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Screwing Tackle—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ..

Screws and Spindles—
Dodd, Joseph, & Co., Chester Works, Aston, Birmingham .. .. ..

Screws, Washers, Nails, &c.— PAGE
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham .. ..
Perlam, H. W., Birmingham .. ..

Seals—
Pryor, E. & Son, Sheffield .. ..

Seed Merchants—
Gaskain, D H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. .. ..

Seeds—
Cooper, Taber & Co., Ltd., London .. 11

Separators, (Electro Magnetic)—
Gaskell, A. E., & Co., Manchester ..

Serge—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford 3
Hamlyn Bros., Ld., Buckfastleigh, Devon 4
Spinner & Co., Manchester .. Cover

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Robertson & Orcher, Dundee .. ..

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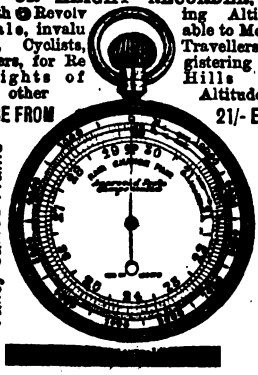

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Ships' Lamp Lenses— PAGE
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham .. ..

Shirtings—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow 1

Shoe Rivets—
Edridge, Merrett & Co., Ltd., Legge Street, Birmingham .. .. ..

Shop Fittings—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2
Harris & Sheldon, Ltd., Stafford Street, Birmingham .. ..

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Slate Merchants and Manufrs.—
Davies Bros., Portmadoc, N. Wales ..
Williams, Richard, & Co., Portmadoc..

Slipper Manufacturers—
Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge.. .. 12

Slipway Machinery—
Day,Summers&Co.,Ld.,Southampton..

Soap Manufacturers—
Gaston & Tennant, Ltd., Aberdeen ..
Price's Patent Candle Co., Limited, London, S.W. .. ..
Tennant, Charles, & Co., Glasgow ..
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Hazlehurst Soap Works, Runcorn .. .. ..
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Soda—
Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire .. ..
United Alkali Co., Ltd Liverpool ..

Spades—
Thornton, George, & Co., Birmingham

Sponge Cloths, &c.— PAGE
Jones William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester .. ..

Stamp and Punch Makers—
Pryor, Edward, & Son, Sheffield ..

Stationers (Manufacturing and Export)—
Dickinson, John, & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. 3

Stay Busk Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield .. ..

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Hartley & Sugden, Halifax .. ..

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Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow..

Steel and Iron Shafting, &c.—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee .. ..
Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow ..

Steel Manufacturers— PAGE
Brown, Bayley's Steel Works,Limited, Sheffield .. ..
Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby.. .
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield .. ..
Fairley, J., & Sons, Birmingham ..
Lanarkshire Steel Co., The, Motherwell, N.B. .. ..
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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Sulphuric Acid Manufacturers' Retorts—
Stevens, J., & Sons, Birmingham ..

Surgical India Rubber Mfrs.—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co. London, E.C. 2

Surgical Instrument Mfctr.—
Harris, Joseph, Altrincham (Rubber Goods) 21

Syphons and Seltzogenes—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. .. 17

Tailors' Trimming Warehousemen—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E. 8

Tallow—
Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool..

Tanks—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham ..

Tar and Rosin Distillers—
Brotherton & Co., Leeds .. .. ..
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Tarpaulin Manufacturers—
Piggott Bros. & Co., London, E.C. .. 4

Tea Merchants—
Tower Tea Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ..

Teak Timber—
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Bullers, Limited, London, E.C. ..
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Limited, London, E.C. .. .. ..
Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. .. ..
Telegraph Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Helsby, Warrington .. .. ..

Telephones—
Telegraph Manufacturing Company, Ltd., Helsby, Warrington ..

PAGE

Tents, Marquees and Camp Furniture—
Piggott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. .. 4

Textile Engineers & Machinists—
Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury..

Textile Machinery Manufrs.—
Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury, Ld., Bury..

Textile Manufacturers—
Hamlyn Bros., Buckfastleigh, Devon .. 4
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E. 8
Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale Cover
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Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. .. ..
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E.

Tool Manufacturers—
Luke & Spencer, Limited, Broadheath, Manchester .. ..
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ..

Towels—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Limited, Manchester .. .. Cover

PAGE

Traction Engines—
Aveling & Porter, Ltd., Rochester ..

Tube Mill Machinery—
Jones, George, Ltd., Birmingham ..

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Dugard Bros., Birmingham .. ..
Russell, J., & Sons, Ltd., Wednesbury
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Ventilators— PAGE

Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Bolton 2

Vinegar Makers—

Grimble & Co., Ltd., Cumberland Market, N.W. .. ..

Hills & Underwood, London, E.C. ..

Wagon Cover Manufacturers—

Piggott, Bros., & Co., London, E.C. .. 4

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Piggott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. .. 4

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Sanderney & Co., London, S.E.. .. ..

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Palestine Engineering Co., Limited, Liverpool .. ..

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Whitaley, Wm., & Sons, Lockwood, Huddersfield .. ..

Wheels— PAGE

Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N. 9

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Power, F. A., & Son, Saltley, Birm'gham

Wood Block Flooring—

Geary, Walker, & Co., London, E.C. ..

Wood Stains— PAGE

Flack, Henry, London, S.E. .. ..

Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E.

Wolsey Unshrinkable Wool-Underwear—

Walker, R., & Sons, Rutland Street, Leicester 16

Wool Importers—

Hall, John, & Sons, Liverpool .. ..

Wool, Tops, Noils, Wastes, &c.—

Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford 8

Woollen, Cotton, and Linen Cloths for Machinery—

Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury 10

Woollen Machinery Manufactrs—

Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury (Power Looms and all kinds of Weaving Machinery) .. .. ..

Woollen Warehousemen & Mfrs.—

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Hamlyn Bros., Ld., Buckfastleigh, Devon 4

Joseph, M., & Co., 26, Aldgate High Street, London, E. .. 8

Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale Cover

Platt, James, & Co., Woollen Merchants and General Warehousemen, London, W.C. .. .. ..

Spinner, E., & Co., Manchester .. Cover

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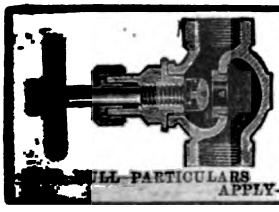

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The following Admiralty Charts have recently been newly issued, or so largely corrected as to render a new Chart desirable. The date of the alteration is notified in the centre of the bottom of the Chart.

NOTE.—Charts that have received such alterations as can usually be made by hand on the Charts in use, in agreement with the "Notices to Mariners," are not described in the List below. The date of such alteration is shown at the left hand lower corner of the Chart.

Chart No.	Title of Chart, and Nature and Subject of Correction.
1543	England, E., Yarmouth and Lowestoft roads. Lowestoft, N. road to Pakefield gat, December.
2498	Scotland, W., Southern part of the Sound of Raasay and Inner Sound. New chart, November.
3144	Ireland, S.W., Crookhaven, Ballydivlin and Toormore Bays. New chart, November.
3004	Iceland, S. and E., plans. Plan Vestmannæyjar added, December.
2296	Gulf of Bothnia, sheet i., S. Quarken to Hornslandet. Large corrections, November.
2664	France, W., sheet ii., Porte D'Arcachon to Porte de la Coubre. General amendments, December.
92	Cape St. Vincent to the Strait of Gibraltar. General amendments, December.
369	N. Atlantic, Cape Verde Islands, plans. Plans added, Port St. Jago, Rolla road, English road, and San Filippe and Encarnação anchorages, November.
652	Africa, E., Mozambique Harbour. Plan Mozambique anchorage added, and large corrections. December.
1419	Bay of Bengal, Andaman Islands, Long Island to Port Blair. Large corrections, November.
1260	China, N., Shantung, Ching tsu Shan (Cape Cod) to Chifu Bluff, including Chifu or Yentai Harbour. New chart, December.
1798	China, N., Liau Tung, Kwang Tung Peninsula, including Ta Lien Hwan and the approaches to Port Arthur. Large corrections, December.
2875	Japan, Naikai (Seto Uchi) or Inland Sea. Harima Nada and Kii Suido, December.
1259	Korea, Fusan Harbour, with the adjacent coast of Tchao Sian. Large corrections, November.
939	British New Guinea, N.E., Cape Nelson to Hercules Bay. Holnicote and Dyke Acland Bays, December.
3458	New Guinea, N.E., plans of anchorages, Buna Roads, Oro Bay, Port Harvey, Anasari Harbour, Pusi Pusi Harbour, Wamea anchorage, Kitava Island anchorage. New chart, December.
55	S.W. Pacific, anchorages in New Britain, New Ireland, and New Guinea. Plan Nusa Harbour, November.
764	S.W. Pacific, anchorages in New Hanover, New Ireland and New Britain. Plan added, Peter Haven, November.
1103	W. Pacific Ocean, plans, Palao or Pelew Islands, Korror Harbour, Helen reef, Los Martires, Mapia Island. New chart, December.
3436	New Zealand. North Island, E., Bay of Plenty, Plate Island to Cape Runaway. New chart, November.
3462	N. America, W., British Columbia, anchorages in Queen Charlotte Sound, Southgate group and anchorage. New chart, November.
969	S. America, E., Brazil, Pernambuco roads, Pernambuco Harbour, November.
808	Gulf of St. Lawrence, plans. East Cape and Bear Bay, November.

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(With which is incorporated the "Imperial Institute Journal.")

Edited by the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

JANUARY 19, 1905.

	PAGE
OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE ...	100
IMPORT TRADE OF THE TRANSVAAL ...	110
COTTON GROWING AND ITS RELATION TO EGYPTIAN PROSPERITY ...	111
PETROLEUM INDUSTRY IN ROUMANIA ...	112
SARDINE AND TUNNY FISHING NETS USED ON THE MEDITERRANEAN COAST ...	113
PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES ...	114
TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS ...	118
SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT ...	123
MINERALS, METALS, AND MACHINERY ...	126
YARNS AND TEXTILES ...	128
AGRICULTURE ...	129
MISCELLANEOUS ...	131
STATISTICAL TABLES ...	136
GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS (BOARD OF TRADE,* FOREIGN OFFICE, COLONIAL OFFICE, &c.) ...	140

For list of contents in detail see p. vii. of Advertisements.

* *For list of principal publications of Board of Trade see p. v. of Advertisements.*

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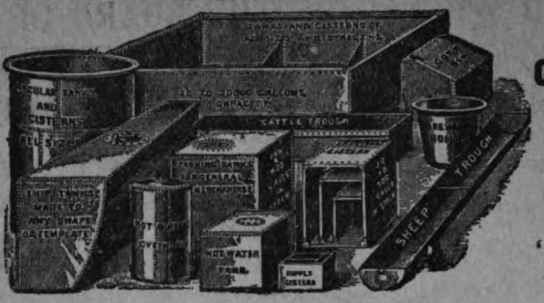

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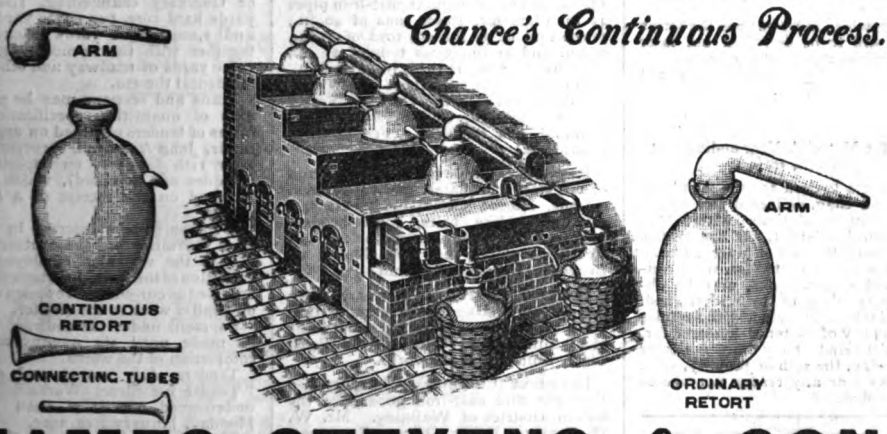

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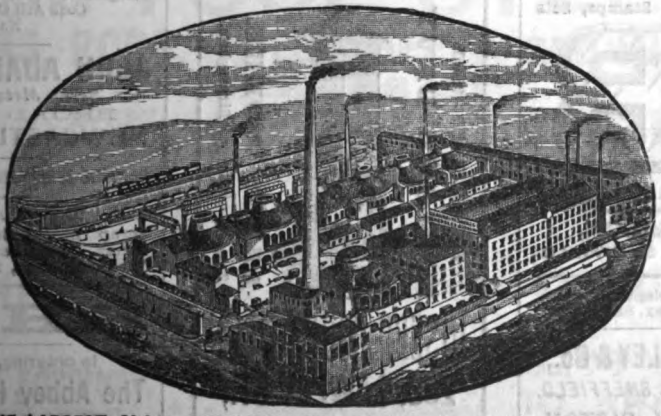

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Forms of tender and conditions of contract may be obtained on application at my office, and will be sent through the post on receipt of a stamped addressed foolscap envelope.

Tenders, which must be upon the forms provided, are to be delivered not later than Saturday, 28th January, 1905.

The lowest or any other tender will not necessarily be accepted.

Bourne Rural District Council.

Tender for Material, Year ending 31st March, 1906.

Tenders are invited for the supply of Granite and Slag, delivered free to the several railway stations within the Bourne Rural District, for the twelve months ending the 31st of March, 1906.

Duplicate forms of tender, with conditions and specifications, may be obtained by applying to the undersigned, and sealed tenders, together with samples of each quality of material tendered for, must be delivered at my office not later than Tuesday, the 24th of January, 1905.

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Payment under the contract will not be made until six months after the completion of the works.

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Board of Trade Journal.

JANUARY 19TH, 1905.

CONTENTS.

PAGE

Openings for British Trade 100

British Colonies, &c.:—

British India:—

Tenders for Fishbolts and Bridge Spans.

" " Deck Bridges, Leather Belting, Lamps, &c.

Canada.—Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

Cape Colony.—Opening for Waterworks.

Foreign Countries:—

Openings for Trade in Egypt, Norway, Belgium, France, Tahiti, Switzerland, Canary Islands, Italy, Roumania, United States (Panama Canal Zone), Mexico, Chile, Brazil and China.

Import Trade of the Transvaal 110

Cotton Growing and its relation to Egyptian Prosperity 111

Petroleum Industry in Roumania 112

Sardine and Tunny Fishing Nets used on the Mediterranean Coast ... 113

Proposed Tariff Changes 114

Philippine Islands.

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations 118

South African Customs Union. Mauritius. Egypt. Netherlands. Italy—Cuba. Roumania. United States of America.

Shipping and Transport 123

Railway Rates for Bananas in Jamaica. Alternative Route to connect the Siberian Railway with Western Russia. The Trans-Baikal Railway. Shipping at Hamburg in 1904. New Service of Steamers between Curaçoa and European Ports. New special Railway Tariff in Italy for Food Products consigned Abroad.

Minerals, Metals, and Machinery 126

Platinum Industry of Russia. Conference in Russia to obtain Restriction of Orders for New Warships to Native Industry. Coal and Iron Production of Hainault. Manufacture of Bauxite Brick. New Source of Garnet in the United States.

Yarns and Textiles 128

Cotton Spinning and Weaving in India.

Agriculture 129

Estimated Winter Rice Crop of Bengal. Tasmanian Depôt for Export of Poultry to United Kingdom and South Africa. Balata Industry of British Guiana. Minor Industries in Jamaica. Grain Crop in the Amour Region.

Miscellaneous 131

State of the Labour Market in December, 1904. Fishery Statistics of the United Kingdom. Ceylon Pearl Fishery of 1905. Trade of Trinidad and Tobago in 1903-4. Fishing Industry of French Indo-China. Italian Trade with the United Kingdom. Development of Hungarian Industry. Alaskan Seal Catch for 1904. Fox Raising in Alaska.

Statistical Tables 136

Cotton Returns.

Corn Prices.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

Bankruptcy Statistics (England and Wales).

Government Publications 140

Board of Trade Returns and Labour Gazette. Notes of Foreign Office Reports. List of Foreign Office Reports arranged geographically, also a list of Colonial Office Reports issued since the beginning of last year.

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Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. XLVIII.] January 19, 1905. [No. 425.

In a notice on p. 146 will be found a statement of the objects and work of the **Commercial Intelligence Branch** of the Board of Trade.

The Branch has been moved from 50, Parliament Street to 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

"Advantage, London" is the registered telegraphic address of the Branch.

The Temporary Enquiry Office, hitherto at 49, Eastcheap, E.C., has also been moved to 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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3		p. 12
4		pp. 176/191
5		pp. 57/157
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	Annual Statement of Trade, 1903. Vol. II. (Cd. 2,081) at 5*s.*	pp. 177/453

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6 } Annual Abstract of Labour Statistics, } pp. 176/182
7 } 9th No. (Cd. 1,755) at 1*s.* ... } pp. 34/72

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OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

BRITISH INDIA.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS: INDIA OFFICE.

The Secretary of State for India in Council is prepared to receive tenders from such persons as may be willing to supply—

Fishbolts and Bridge Spans.

1. Fishbolts for 87 lb. rails.

2. Khushalgarh Bridge, comprising one cantilever span of 471 feet, and one anchor span of 303 feet.

The conditions of contract may be obtained on application to the Director-General of Stores, India Office, Whitehall, S.W.,

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Openings for British Trade.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

and tenders are to be delivered at that office by 2 p.m. on Tuesday, the 24th January, 1905, for No. 1, and on Tuesday, the 14th February, 1905, for No. 2, after which times, respectively, no tender will be received.

Deck Bridges, Leather Belting, Lamps, &c.

The East Indian Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply and delivery of:—

1. Deck bridges (6 feet, 12 feet, 20 feet, and 40 feet clear spans);
2. Leather belting, hides, &c.;
3. Lamps, lamp fittings and miscellaneous glass;

as per specifications to be seen at the Company's offices, Nicholas Lane, London, E.C.

Tenders are to be sent to the Secretary marked "Tender for Deck Bridges," or as the case may be, not later than 12 noon, on Wednesday, the 25th January.

The Company reserve the right to divide the order, also to decline any tender without assigning a reason, and do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

For each specification a fee of 1*l.* 1*s.* is charged, which cannot under any circumstances be returned.

CANADA.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following were among the recent enquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the **Canadian Government Offices, Victoria Street, S.W.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—An English firm largely interested in the canned goods business desire to undertake the representation of some good Canadian packers not already having agencies in the United Kingdom.

A glue, size, glue powder and soap manufacturer asks to be referred to Canadian buyers of these goods.

A firm of syphon bottle makers for mineral and aerated waters, who are manufacturing a new patent earthenware syphon, wish to interest Canadian users of such goods in the invention.

The names of wholesale clothiers in Canada have been asked for by a maker of tailors' crayons, &c., who desires to extend his business relations with the Dominion.

Enquiry is made for names of Canadian exporters of dowels (⅜ inch to 1 inch), chair and table legs turned from maple or birch, cornice poles, oak barrel staves and tops, and copper ore.

Application is made for makers in Canada of wood pulp boards, in white, tinted and leather colours, such as are used for paper boxes, bookbinding and printing purposes; size 22in. by 32in., from 40 to 600 sheets to the cwt.

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Openings for British Trade.

CANADA—*continued.*

Canadian Enquiries.—A Canadian firm ask to be referred to English houses for entomological supplies—black enamelled insect pins, compressed turf and cork, sheet cork, &c.

Enquiry is made by a firm in Nova Scotia for names of dealers in fine shoes or other persons who would be likely to take up the sale of a bead-trimmed slipper, manufactured by a tribe of Indians who turn out excellent work of the kind.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, Victoria Street, S.W.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following trade enquiries have been received at the Canadian Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—A firm in Manchester ask to be placed in correspondence with Canadian manufacturers of oak barrel tops, bottoms and staves, cornice poles, blind rollers, and washing boards.

Enquiry is made for the names of Canadian manufacturers of Lacrosse frames.

A firm of leather merchants ask to be placed in communication with tanners of sole, upper, and other leathers.

A leading firm of agents and brokers would be pleased to hear from Canadian canners of fruit, fish, and vegetables who are desirous of doing export trade.

A manufacturer of tam-o-shanters, travelling and other caps wishes to do business in Canada, and would like to hear from importers in the leading Canadian cities.

A metal and mineral merchant wishes to purchase supplies of silex, and asks to be placed in communication with Canadian producers of the material.

Canadian Enquiry.—A Nova Scotia manufacturer of cider wishes to hear from United Kingdom importers.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

CAPE COLONY.

Waterworks.

A notice appears in the "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" of 20th December, announcing the intention of the Municipality of Bedford, Cape Colony, to raise a loan of 13,000*l.* to be expended in the improvement of the water supply of the town.

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Openings for British Trade.

EGYPT.

Police Stores.

The Egyptian "Journal Officiel" of 2nd January announces that tenders will be received at the Police Stores, Bulaq, Cairo, up till noon on the 15th February, 1905, for the supply of the undermentioned articles, for a period of one year, commencing on 1st April, 1905, and ending on 31st March, 1906, viz.:—

1. Clothing and necessaries.
2. Saddlery.
3. Leather accoutrements.
4. Stable necessaries.
5. Miscellaneous articles.

Samples can be seen at the Police Stores, Bulaq, any day, except Fridays and general holidays, between 8 a.m. and noon, and also on application to Colonel Western, Broadway Chambers, Westminster, London, S.W.

Copies of the conditions of contract, specifications for textile tests, and lists of articles required have been received at the Board of Trade from the Egyptian Ministry of the Interior, and may be obtained on application at the Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

Tenders must be submitted on stamped paper, and should be addressed to the Director of Police Stores, Bulaq (Cairo), enclosed in sealed envelopes, and marked "Tender for the supply of clothing," &c.

No tender will be considered unless accompanied by a declaration from a bank in Egypt, as stipulated in Article 2 of the conditions of tender.

The Administration are not bound to accept the lowest or any tender.

NORWAY.

Telegraph and Telephone Material.

A despatch has been received from the Acting British Consul-General at Christiania (Mr. E. F. Gray) reporting that tenders in sealed envelopes, marked "Anbud paa Telegraf-og Telefonmateriel," will be received not later than 3 p.m. on Friday, the 3rd February, at the office of the Norwegian State Railway Management ("Styrelsens Expeditions Kontor, Statsbanerne, Christiania"), for the supply of:—

8,000 kilogs. galvanised iron wire, 4 mm. in diameter;
5,000 „ „ „ 3 mm. „
500 „ sal ammoniac for Leclanche elements;
4,000 insulators;
500 carbon plates for Leclanche elements.

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Openings for British Trade.

With this despatch Mr, Gray transmits the following particulars relating to this contract:—

General regulations for tendering to the Norwegian State Railways; conditions for delivery of telegraph materials; special conditions for delivery of galvanised iron wire, sal ammoniac, insulators, and battery carbon; drawings of insulators; specification of quantities and places of delivery. These particulars may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

Copies of the drawings can be procured on sending an application in writing, accompanied by the sum of fifty öre (about 7*d.*) per drawing required, to "Statsbanernes Hovedkasserer," No. 1, Jernbanetorvet, Christiania."

Apart from the usual Customs duties, a preference of from 10 to 15 per cent. is given to Norwegian manufacturers.

BELGIUM.

Bridge Construction.

The "Bulletin Commercial" of the 7th January announces that the adjudication will take place at noon on the 8th February at the Bourse, Brussels, of tenders for:—(1) The construction of a railway bridge over the Senne and a metallic archway, at the estimated cost of 90,060 fr. (about 3,602*l.*); (2) the construction of a railway bridge over the Vrouwvliet, two metallic archways, three aqueducts, outlets, embankments, &c., at the estimated cost of 192,477 fr. (about 7,698*l.*). Deposits of 7,000 fr. (about 280*l.*) and 14,000 fr. (about 560*l.*) respectively, are required to qualify any tender. Specifications of (1), No. 375, price 80 centimes, and of (2) No. 384, price 1 fr. 70 centimes, may be obtained from "M. Motte, Ingénieur en chef, 13 rue de Brabant, Brussels."

Railway Construction.

The "Bulletin Commercial" of 14th January announces that the "Société Nationale des Chemins de Fer Vicinaux" invite tenders, which will be opened on 22nd February, for the construction of a line between Charleroi and Jumet (Heigne), at the estimated cost of 117,732 fr. (about 4,709*l.*). Tenders, in registered envelopes, addressed to "M. le Directeur Général, Société Nationale des Chemins de Fer Vicinaux, 14 rue de la Science, Brussels," must be posted not later than the 21st February. A deposit of 12,000 fr. (about 480*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Specifications (price 1 fr.) may be obtained after the 23rd January from the above-mentioned address, where plans may also be inspected.

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Openings for British Trade.

BELGIUM—*continued.*

Leather.

The same issue of the "Bulletin" contains a notice issued by the Minister of War, calling for tenders, which will be opened on the 27th January, for the supply of various kinds of leather to the Belgian Army. Conditions of tender, specifications and samples may be inspected at the Ministry of War, 5, rue Royale, Brussels.

FRANCE.

Electric Cranes, &c.

The "Journal Officiel" of 16th January publishes a Decree authorising the Nice Chamber of Commerce to erect electric cranes and other machinery necessary for the improvement of the conditions of working at the port of Nice.

The "Journal" containing full particulars of the required plant may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

FRANCE—TAHITI.

Port Works: Lighthouse Construction.

The "Dépêche Coloniale" of 7th January reports that a Commission have been studying the question of improving the port of Papeete with a view to making it a coaling and victualling station for the line of vessels from Panama to Sydney which will be established when the Panama Canal is completed. The total cost of the works necessary to make Papeete suitable for the above-mentioned purpose is estimated at 600,000 fr. (about 24,000*l.*). The Commission are also of opinion that it would be desirable to erect a lighthouse on Tuamotu, the most westerly island of the Marquesas group, at a cost of 80,000 fr. (about 3,200*l.*).

SWITZERLAND.

Bridge Construction.

The "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels) states that tenders will be opened on the 31st January, at Aarau, before the Director of Public Works of the Canton of Aargau, for the construction of a bridge over the Rhine between Zurzach and Rheinheim. Conditions and plans may be inspected at the offices of the "Ingénieur du Canton," Aarau, or at the offices for the construction of the bridge, at Zurzach.

SPAIN—CANARY ISLES.

Electric Tramway Plant.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 13th January notifies that an application has been made by Don German Leon y Castillo for the concession of an electric tramway from Las Palmas to the port of La Luz.

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One month from the date of the publication of the notice is allowed in which other proposals, on more favourable terms, duly guaranteed, may be made.

The "Gaceta" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

ITALY.

Iron Bars, Rivets, Nuts and Bolts.

The British Vice-Consul at Spezia (Mr. E. M. de Garston) forwards translation of a notice calling for tenders for the supply to the Italian Navy of soft iron bars, rivets, nuts and bolts to the estimated total value of 9,133 lire (about 365*l.*), to be delivered at the Royal Arsenals at Spezia, Naples, Venice and Taranto as required.

Sealed tenders will be opened at 11 a.m. on 3rd February next, a deposit of 915 lire (about 36*l.* 12*s.*) being required to qualify any tender. The final date for improving on the price of the provisional adjudication by a further rebate of not less than 5 per cent. will expire on 20th February. Local representation is necessary.

The special conditions of contract may be seen at the Ministry of Marine, Rome; at the Directorates General of the Royal Arsenals; at the Technical Offices of the Navy, Genoa; and at the principal Chambers of Commerce in Italy.

Gas and Steam Coal.

The Vice-Consul also reports that the Municipality of Spezia invite tenders, to be presented at 10 a.m. on the 24th January, for the supply of 2,000 tons of gas coal to the estimated value, and at the starting price of 52,000 lire (about 2,080*l.*).

Tenders will also be received in the Spezia Municipality up to 11 a.m. on the 28th January for a further contract for the supply of 300 tons of steam coal for the Municipal sewage farm at Valdellora, to the estimated value and at the "upset" price of 9,900 lire (about 396*l.*).

The system upon which both of these contracts will be awarded is that of the "single auction" (See "Board of Trade Journal" of 22nd December last, pp, 536-7).

For further particulars enquiries should be addressed "Segreteria Comunale, Spezia."

Hydro-Electric Plant.

The "Bollettino delle Finanze" notifies the following concessions of water for industrial purposes:—

1. A concession granted by the Prefect of Verona to Signor Stefano De Stefani, of Verona, for an appropriation from the river Vaio Pisotte, in the Communes of Ferrara, Monte Balbo, and Brentino.

2. A concession granted by the Prefect of Turin to Signor Cesare Gasca for an appropriation from the Dora Riparia, in the Territory of Rivoli.

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Openings for British Trade.

ITALY—*continued.*

Railway Construction.

The subjoined particulars of a report recently submitted to the Italian Minister of Public Works by a Commission appointed to consider the best means of improving the railway service to Genoa are taken from the "Bollettino delle Finanze" of the 8th January.

The Commission are of opinion that the following works are urgently needed:—Enlargement of the stations at Genoa and Sampierdarena, cost 3,930,000 lire; of the stations at Ronco, Busalla, Pontedecimo Novi and San Rovo, cost 38,620,000 lire; systematisation of the stations at Milan, cost 35,000,000 lire; instalment of the block-signalling system between Voghera and Rogoredo, cost 700,000 lire; redoubling of the line between Torreberetti and Novara, cost 2,300,000 lire; enlargement of the stations at Alessandria, Novara, Turin, and various smaller towns in Piedmont and Lombardy, cost 7,270,000 lire; redoubling of the line between Genoa and Chiavari, cost 30,000,000 lire; enlargement of the station at Sestri Levante, cost 700,000 lire; construction of a new station and enlargement of various stations between Sestri and Spezia, cost 2,600,000 lire; redoubling of the line between Genoa and Voltri, cost 5,000,000 lire; instalment of the block-signalling system between Sampierdarena and Savona, cost 600,000 lire; systematisation of the stations at Arenzano, Cogoleto, Varazze and Celle, cost 380,000 lire; enlargement of the station at Savona, cost, 200,000 lire.

The carrying out of the improvements recommended, which include the construction of 50 kiloms. of railway line in the most productive districts of Italy, would involve a total expenditure of 129,800,000 lire (about 5,192,000*l.* In the opinion of the Commission, this expenditure is fully justified by the rapid development of Genoa; the tonnage of shipping at this port having risen from less than 1,000,000 tons in 1878 to more than 5,500,000 tons in 1903.

ROUMANIA.

Shovels; Benzine; Colza Oil.

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matérials" (Brussels) announces that the Administration of the Roumanian State Railways, Bucharest, invite tenders for the supply of (1) 10,345 steel shovels; (2) 31,000 kilogs. of benzine; (3) 106,000 kilogs. of colza oil for lubrication. Tenders for (1) will be opened on the 2nd February, for (2) on the 14th February, and for (3) on the 16th February.

UNITED STATES—PANAMA CANAL ZONE.

Panama Canal Supplies.

Tenders for sundry supplies in connection with the construction of the Panama Canal are being asked for by the Isthmian Canal Commission, Washington. The terms are c.i.f. at one or other of the canal

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Openings for British Trade.

zone ports, Forms of "proposals" for sundry supplies have been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, but the latest dates (24th to 25th January) on which such proposals are to be opened in Washington render these of no value, except as indications of the general terms that are being adopted.

MEXICO.

Hydro-Electric Plant; Telegraph Wire.

The "Diario Oficial" of Mexico, of 26th December, contains a Decree granting Señores Quijaro and Rivero an appropriation of 25,000 litres of water per second from the River Atoyac, District of Puebla.

The concessionnaires undertake to produce the maximum amount of hydraulic power either for use in the vicinity or for transmission elsewhere by means of overhead or underground wires. They are authorised to construct any canals and bridges that may be deemed necessary, and to erect telegraph and telephone wires for the exclusive use of their works. They are further authorised to import, free of duty, all necessary machinery, scientific instruments and apparatus; provided the whole of these articles are imported at one and the same time.

The "Diario" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

CHILE.

Sample of Mica On View.

A despatch has been received at the Board of Trade from H.M. Consul at Coquimbo (Mr. G. L. Ansted) forwarding a sample of mica which is said to have been discovered in his Consular District. Mica of the quality of this sample, it is stated, can be extracted in large leaves or sheets, and the owner is prepared to entertain business proposals for the supply of his product.

The sample may be examined at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.). Enquiries should be addressed to H.M. Consul, British Consulate, Coquimbo.

BRAZIL.

Alteration in Date for Opening Tenders for Rolling Stock.

With reference to the notice on p. 10 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 5th January respecting tenders for the supply of narrow gauge rolling stock to the Central Railway of Brazil, the "Diario Official" of Brazil of 22nd December contains a notification to the effect that the opening of tenders has been postponed until the 10th February.

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BRAZIL—*continued.*

Railway Stores.

The "Diario" of 23rd December contains a notice calling for tenders for the supply to the Central Railway of Brazil of:—

Surplus parts for waggons (1 m. 60 gauge).
Surplus parts for Baldwin & Brooks locomotives.
" " Westinghouse locomotives and brakes.
" " repairs to lighting plant in railway carriages.
Tools, hose and hose fittings.

Tenders will be received on the 16th February at the offices of the Central Railway of Brazil, Rio de Janiero, where specifications and drawings may be inspected. A deposit of 5,000 milreis (about 562*l.* 10*s.*) is required to qualify any tender. Local representation is necessary.

Iron Supports.

The same issue of the "Diario" contains a notice calling for tenders for the supply of bent iron supports ("*tesouras*") for roofing suburban stations on the above-mentioned railway.

Tenders will be received on the 28th February at the offices of the railway, where specifications and drawings may be inspected. A deposit of 1,000 milreis (about 112*l.* 10*s.*) is required to qualify any tender. Local representation is necessary.

The "Diarios" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

CHINA.

Garden Implements.

A recent report by the United States Consul at Hangchow states that while there will be little demand for agricultural machinery in China for a long time to come, excepting in Manchuria and Northern China, it is probable that modern garden implements will soon be welcomed and that there will be a wide field for enterprise in this direction. At present the native tools are such as have been in use for centuries. They are not good tools, perhaps, but they are made cheaply and are used by cheap labour. In several instances within the Consul's observation small garden force pumps have been welcomed by progressive gardeners, and he is of the opinion that small garden hand ploughs would also be well received. It is possible that cheap but substantial rakes and hoes could be sold.

The Consul adds that it would be well to bear in mind that the general introduction of a single one of these articles in China would mean the sale of an immense number of others. Chinese farmers are commencing to consider foreign ideas and methods, and there will soon be a breaking up of present methods and a turning to new tools. All land culture in China is intensive and the tools must suit intensive methods of farming.

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IMPORT TRADE OF THE TRANSVAAL.

With reference to the statement on pp. 541-2 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 22nd December, the following table, showing the value of the principal and other articles imported into the Transvaal during the ten months ended 31st October, 1904, as compared with the corresponding period of 1903, has been compiled from official figures published in the "Transvaal Government Gazette" of 15th December:—

Imports.

Articles.	Ten Months ended 31st Oct., 1903.	Ten Months ended 31st Oct., 1904.
	£	£
Metals and manufactures of (*includes agricultural implements, hardware, iron and steel manufactures, machinery, wire rope, &c.*)	3,323,000	2,135,000
Provisions, exclusive of corn and dairy products (*includes coffee, chicory, biscuits, meats, fresh and preserved, fish, fresh and preserved, jams, sugar, tea, vegetables, fruits, condiments, salt, &c.*) ...	2,118,000	1,779.000
Apparel, haberdashery, &c. (*includes hats*)	2,191,000	1,296,000
Corn and grain (*includes flour, meal and rice*) ...	1.405,000	950,000
Wood and manufactures (*includes furniture*)	1,446,000	708,000
Dairy products (*includes butter and butterine, eggs, cheese, preserved milk, &c.*)	606,000	482,000
Leather and manufactures (*includes saddlery and boots and shoes*)	660,000	389.000
Drugs and chemicals	444,000	387,000
Beverages (*includes ale, spirits, wine and mineral waters*)	539,000	352,000
Live animals	528,000	278,000
Arms and ammunition (*includes dynamite and other explosives*)	78,000	245,000
Groceries and oilmen's stores (*includes oils and paints*)	344,000	241,000
Vehicles (*includes cycles and accessories*)	514,000	223,000
Stationery and paper (*includes wall paper and books*)	312,000	216,000
Soap and candles	215,000	196,000
Cotton manufactures	272,000	183,000
Tobacco, raw and manufactured (*includes cigars and cigarettes*)	178,000	166.000
Tramway material...	69,000	147,000
Jewellery and plated ware (*includes clocks and watches*)	168.000	135,000
Woollen manufactures	228,000	106,000
Instruments, musical and other	103,000	60,000
Glass and glassware	100,000	58,000
Cocoa, chocolate, and confectionery	83,000	58,000
Electric cable wire and fittings	58,000	58,000
Seeds, trees and plants	117.000	48,000
Bags (not leather or canvas)	51,000	36,000
Earthenware and crockery	71,000	35,000
Toys and sporting goods	44,000	32,000
Cement and lime	36,000	31,000
Fuse	31,000	25,000
Carpets	81,000	19,000
Photographic material	30,000	18,000
Coal, coke and patent fuel	7,000	18,000
Tobacconist ware	29,000	17,000
Linen manufactures	33,000	8,000
Other articles of merchandise	251,000	161,000
Total... ... ... £	16,763,000	11,296,000

Of the total value of merchandise imported into the Transvaal during the first ten months of 1904, 4,123,000*l.* worth were sent *viâ* Cape Colony, 5,029,000*l.* worth *viâ* Natal, and 2,144,000*l.* worth *viâ* Delagoa Bay.

NOTE.—The above figures do not include free importations for Local Government or Military Stores, or Railway Material imported as "Government Stores."

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COTTON GROWING AND ITS RELATION TO EGYPTIAN PROSPERITY.

A supplement to the Egyptian "Journal Officiel" of 24th December contains a note by the Financial Adviser (Mr. V. E. H. Corbett) on the Budget of Egypt for 1905.

In this note Mr. Corbett states that the country has advanced in prosperity by leaps and bounds, but it is wise to remember that the almost sensational results of the last few years are due in part at least to adventitious causes, on the permanent continuance of which it would be imprudent to count. Stable Government, security of life and property, impartial administration of the law, fiscal reform, and the introduction of foreign capital, have all had their share in promoting the economic development of Egypt, but in the face of a permanent remission of taxation during the last 20 years, estimated at more than £ E 1,600,000 a year, these causes would hardly in themselves have been sufficient to raise the revenue from £ E 10,431,000 in 1895 to something like £ E 13,500,000 in 1904, had it not been for the enormous returns resulting from the cultivation of cotton.

The amount and value of the cotton crop, according to the export figures of the Customs returns during the last five years, have been as follows:—

Year.	Quantity.	Value.
	Cantars.	£ E.
1899–1900	6,496,233	13,597,511
1900–1901	5,401,009	12,207,375
1901–1902	6,526,783	12,057,989
1902–1903	5,860,751	14,785,742
1903–1904	6,144,551	17,781,802

NOTE.—Cantar = 99 lbs. av.

There are not wanting signs, says Mr. Corbett, that the profits from this source cannot be relied on to increase indefinitely in the same proportion. The following table shows the area under cotton, with the quantity of the crop, according to the statistics of the amount received at Alexandria from the interior since 1902:—

Year.	Number of Feddans under Cotton.	Quantity of Crop.
1901–1902	1,275,676	6,369,911
1902–1903	1,332,510	5,838,790
1903–1904	1,436,708	6,508,947

Feddan = 1·04 acres.

The figures relating to the area under cotton are those of the Direct Taxes' Department of the Ministry of Finance, based on the declarations of the cultivators. In Mr. Corbett's opinion, they are almost certainly an under estimate, but for purposes of comparison may be taken as approximately correct.

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PETROLEUM INDUSTRY IN ROUMANIA.

In a despatch to the Foreign Office, H.M. Minister at Bucharest (Sir J. G. Kennedy, K.C.M.G.) summarises the substance of the report of the Association of Petroleum Workers and Manufacturers, which was read at their general meeting in December last.

This report deals in the first place with the tanks constructed by the Government at the port of Constantza, which promise to exercise a most beneficial influence on the export of petroleum. It is proposed to complete these reservoirs to the number of 20, each to contain 4,000 tons, but the above Association recommends as advisable that some of the above reservoirs should also be constructed in the interior of the country, and in the neighbourhood of certain stations and places, where petroleum is produced.

The Director of the State Railways has also obtained from the principal refineries a proportionate supply of residues for use on their locomotives, which will in due course be universally fitted with apparatus for that combustible; and not only the railway locomotives, but also the vessels of the Roumanian flotilla and the merchant navy have adopted the same system.

At the instance of the Government all other State departments in the districts and communes employ Roumanian petroleum, thereby avoiding the expenditure of the large sums hitherto devoted to the purchase of foreign coal. The Minister had already alluded to this fact in his speech before the Chamber of Deputies during the past session: "Nous avons la certitude que, dans peu " de temps, l'importation du combustible étranger sera réduite à " un chiffre insignifiant."

A further important factor in the petroleum industry is the realisation of the foundation of a school of trained well-borers, to which institute the important "Steana Romana" Petroleum Company has already subscribed a sum of 240*l.*

As a general result of the proposed utilisation of petroleum residues as a means of combustion, it is of interest to note that the wholesale and in many cases unsystematic denudation of Roumanian forests will be put a stop to, and that the wood hitherto employed for this purpose will now be used for purposes of construction, whether in the country or for export.

It is also deemed advisable to encourage the peasant classes to make use of this national commodity, and with that view small lamps, it is suggested, might be sold at the cheapest rates in order to familiarise the rural populations with the use of petroleum in their cottages, small reservoirs being constructed at certain centres, where supplies might be furnished them on the easiest terms.

In connection with the above, H.M. Minister has forwarded a complete map of the petroleum districts of Roumania, together with a translation of a report published last October, under the supervision of the chief engineer of the Prahova district, giving a

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detailed study of the petroleum question in Roumania, and of its physical and technical features. The map and report in question may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

SARDINE AND TUNNY FISHING NETS USED ON THE MEDITERRANEAN COAST.

The following information relating to the nets used in the sardine, tunny and anchovy fishing industries on the French, Spanish and Italian coasts, has been extracted from reports furnished by H.M. Consular Officers at Brest, Barcelona, Bilbao, and Palermo.

According to H.M. Consul at Brest, the nets used in the sardine fishing industry in his district are described by the length in millimetres of two meshes. Thus a 60 net has a mesh of 30 millimetres, the mesh being measured from knot to knot of one mesh stretched diagonally. The sizes begin at 38 or 40 and range up to 70. The depth of a net is from 400 to 450 meshes and the length from 40 to 50 metres. The nets are made of thread or cotton.

The nets used in the Consular district of Barcelona are made of hemp cord, No. 80 two-fold, 156 metres long by about 22 metres wide, and cost 1 pes. 30 cts. (9*d.*) per metre.

H.M. Consul at Bilbao reports that the nets used in his district for sardine and anchovy fishing are made of cotton or flax and come from France. The sardine net measures 95 metres in length and from 30 to 34 metres in depth, a smaller meshed net being used for anchovy. The former costs 1 pes. 95 cts. per metre by 14 fathoms in depth if made of cotton, and from 2 pes. 50 cts. to 3 pes. if made of flax. Anchovy nets cost 3 pes. per metre in cotton and 5 pes. 50 cts. in flax.

The net used for tunny fishing consists of various "leading" chambers terminating in a lethal death chamber, which is hauled into a barge when the fish enter it. H.M. Consul at Palermo reports, as regards the tunny nets used on the Sicilian and Sardinian coasts, that the "leading" nets were formerly made of agave or aloe fibre, and the death chamber of hemp fibre, but agave fibre is now almost entirely superseded by cocoanut fibre. Eight tons of cocoanut fibre together with four tons of hempen cording and yarn are required to make a net, which, complete with anchors, &c., costs from 1,000*l.* to 2,000*l.* H.M. Consul believes that there should be a market for a greater supply of cocoanut fibre, which is also used in the manufacture of cables. Sicily uses about 400 bales and Sardinia about 300 bales of cocoanut fibre, which, though of British origin, is imported principally from Hamburg.

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PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

Proposed Revision of Tariff.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a statement showing certain proposed changes in the Customs Tariff of the Philippines, which have been submitted to the United States Secretary for War by the Philippine Commission.

The following statement shows such of the alterations proposed in the Tariff as are of most importance to British trade :—

(NOTE.—Alterations in, or additions to, the present Tariff classification are indicated by *italic* type).

Tariff No.	Articles.	Rates of Duty. Present.	Rates of Duty. Proposed.
	CLASS I.—STONES, EARTHS, GLASS, &c.	Dols. cts.	Dols. cts.
6	Coal and coke	Ton (metric) 0 25	Ton (metric) 0 50
16 (*b*)	Incandescent electric lamps, mounted or not	100 2 00	20 % *ad val.*
20	Faience, *not specially provided for*—		
	(*a*) Neither painted, gilt, nor ornamented in relief	100 kilogs. 2 80	100 kilogs. 2 80
	(*b*) Gilt, painted, or with ornaments in relief ...	" 6 00	" 5 00
	Provided, that none of the articles classified under this paragraph shall pay a less rate of duty than 60 per cent. ad valorem.		
21	Porcelain in dishes or hollow ware *and all other articles not specially provided for*—		
	(*a*) Neither painted, gilt, nor ornamented in relief	100 kgs. gr. 5 60	100 kgs. gr. 4 00
	(*b*) Painted, gilt, ornamented in relief, *or with letters in relief*	" 9 60	" 6 00
	(*c*) *Ordinary clear white, transparent or not, which on fracture appears to be of a bluish grey tint, evidencing that it was manufactured from an inferior raw material only, not painted, gilt, ornamented in relief, or with letters in relief* ...	" 5 60	" 1 60
	Provided that none of the articles classified under letters (*a*) and (*b*) of this paragraph shall pay a less rate of duty than 60 per cent. *ad valorem.*		

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Proposed Tariff Changes.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Rates of Duty. Present.	Rates of Duty. Proposed.
		Dols. cts.	Dols. cts.
22 [Transferred to 248]	Electric insulators of plain porcelain	100 kilogs. 4 00	20 % *ad val.*
22 (*a*)	Porcelain, plain, in door knobs and similar articles, *gilt, painted, or with ornaments in relief*	Not stated	100 kgs. gr. 8 00
23	Statuettes, flower stands, vases, high and bas reliefs, articles for toilet purposes and house decoration, all of said articles of clay, faïence, stoneware, porcelain or bisque; *bowls for opium pipes and cloisonné vases* ... ... *Provided, that none of the articles classified under this paragraph shall pay a less rate of duty than 60 per cent. ad valorem.*	Kilog. gr. 0 25	Kilog. net 0 25
	CLASS II.—METALS AND MANUFACTURES THEREOF.		
35	Wrought iron or steel, rolled— (*a*) Rails ... ... *Bent rails, or rails screwed or bolted together in crossings and similar simple track sections, shall be dutiable under letter (a) of this paragraph with a surtax of 30 per cent.*	100 kgs. gr. 0 30	100 kgs. gr. 0 30
Ad 36	*Add* the following *proviso*— *Ridgings, eares, drain pipes, gutters, and similar articles of rolled sheet iron or steel shall be dutiable at the rate provided for the respective materials, with a surtax of 100 per cent.*		
44	Wire gauze— (*a*) Up to 40 threads per square inch	100 kgs. net 1 75	100 kgs. net 3 00
	(*b*) Of 40 threads or more per square inch	Kilog. net 0 04	„ 5 00
46	Tools and implements *of all kinds*, not apparatus, of wrought iron or steel, *for arts, trades, and professions, including emery wheels and emery cloth*	Various rates	20 % *ad val.*

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Proposed Tariff Changes.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Rates of Duty. Present.	Rates of Duty. Proposed.
		Dols. cts.	Dols. cts.
58	Wrought iron or steel in common articles of all kinds not specially mentioned, though coated with lead, tin, or zinc, or painted or varnished ... ... *Provided, that none of the articles classified under this paragraph shall pay a less rate of duty than 20 per cent. ad valorem.*	100 kgs. net 2 50	100 kgs. net 2 50
67	Copper and alloys of copper: pipes, bearings, and plates for fireplaces, *either wrought or* partially wrought... ...	100 kgs. gr. 3 25	100 kgs. gr. 3 25
69 (*b*)	Articles of bronze, gilt or nickelled, not specially provided for, except when exclusively used for sanitary constructions	Kilog. net 0 50	Kilog. net 0 30
	CLASS III.—SUBSTANCES EMPLOYED IN PHARMACY AND CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES, &c.		
80	Opium—		
	(*a*) Crude	" 3 00	" 4 00
	(*b*) Manufactured or prepared for smoking or other purposes	" 3 50	" 5 00
83	Natural colours (ochres, &c.) in powder or lumps	100 kgs. gr. 0 25	100 kgs. gr. 1 00
84 (*d*)	*Other artificial *or natural* colours prepared in paste, oil, or water ... ... NOTE.—It is proposed to abolish the following provision of the present Tariff standing under No. 84:— All prepared paints of metallic bases, ready for use, mixed with other oil than linseed oil or turpentine, and all prepared paints of metallic bases, ready for use, containing barytes, chalk, terra alba or iron rust shall be dutiable under paragraph (*d*) of this number, with a surtax of 50 per cent.	100 kgs. net 5 00	100 kgs. net 5 00

* *i.e.* other than white and red lead.

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Proposed Tariff Changes.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Rates of Duty. Present.	Rates of Duty. Proposed.
		Dols. cts.	Dols. cts.
85	Other artificial colours in powder, crystals, lumps, or paste— (*c*) Lead, coloured and indelible pencils, and charcoal pencils for drawing *Provided, that none of the articles classified under paragraphs* 84 *and* 85 *shall pay a less rate of duty than* 15 *per cent. ad valorem.*§	Kilog. 0 15† 100 kilogs. 3 00‡	Kilog. net 0 15
104	Soap— (*a*) All kinds of soap and other scouring compositions	Various rates	20 % *ad val.*
	CLASS IV.—COTTON AND ITS MANUFACTURES.		
117 (*e*) 118 (*b*) 119 (*b*) 120 (*f*)	It is proposed that these numbers shall read in each case: "The same textiles, *stamped*, printed or manufactured with dyed yarns:" . . .		
Ex. 124	Bath robes and towels manufactured with pile warp ...	Kilog. net 0 47	Kilog. net 0 25
Note to 126	Tulles of all widths, *embroidered or figured after weaving, out of the loom, shall be dutiable under letter* (*a*) *of this paragraph* (i.e., as "plain tulles"—70 cts. per kilog.) *with a surtax of* 60 *per cent.*		
126 & 127	A proviso is proposed to be added to these paragraphs to the effect *that none of the articles classified thereunder shall pay a less rate of duty than* 30 *per cent. ad valorem.*		
Ex. 131	Cotton tape	" 0 52	" 0 26
Ex. 135	Cotton elastic textiles manufactured with threads of india rubber	" 0 15	" 0 45
	CLASS XII.—RICE, &c.		
276	Rice—		
	(*a*) Unhusked	100 kgs. gross wt. 0 40	100 kgs. gross wt. 0 80
	(*b*) Husked...	" 0 50	" 1 00
	(*c*) Flour	" 1 50	" 2 00

† Charcoal pencils. ‡ Other pencils.

§ It is proposed to bring printing, writing, and drawing inks within the scope of paragraph 85 of the New Tariff, but not to alter the present *specific* duties on these articles. Bituminous paints are also to be dutiable under No. 85 (*a*) at the rate of 2 dols. per 100 kilogs.

(To be continued.)

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TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

SOUTH AFRICAN CUSTOMS UNION.

Customs Decisions.

With reference to the notice published in the "Board of Trade Journal" for 25th August, 1904, respecting the decisions given as to the rates of duty leviable on various articles imported into the Transvaal, the Board of Trade have now received a copy of an amended Supplement (No. 2) to the Customs Union Tariff, which includes additional Customs Tariff Decisions—the principal of which are as follows:—

Article.	Item in Tariff.	General Rate of Duty.
	No.	
Arc lamps	144	10 % *ad val.*
Batteries, electric	63	2½ % "
Cachets or wafers	144	10 % "
Cocoa beans	9	1*d.* per lb.
Cocks and taps, except those actually forming part of steam engines or boilers	144	10 % *ad val.*
Cut-outs (electric fittings)	144	10 % "
Dutch medicines	144	10 % "
Electric wire (all)	63	2½ % "
Flintstones (for tube mills)	144	10 % "
Gullies (for drainage)	66	2½ % "
Gold leaf	144	10 % "
Human hair	144	10 % "
Indicators (when attached to engines)	63	2½ % "
" (otherwise)	144	10 % "
Mustard cucumbers	26	2*d.* per lb.
Scale remover (boiler composition)	49	2½ % "
Shaft setts and rails	144	10 % "
Steel head gears (complete)	63	2½ % "
Tins (partly manufactured)	144	10 % "
Vacuum oil filter	144	10 % "
Vermin traps	144	10 % "
Vats used on wine farms	144	10 % "
Watering carts...	40	12½ % "

NOTE.—The above rates are those applicable under the General Tariff. On all goods subject to *ad valorem* rates certain rebates of duty are allowed when they are imported from, and are the produce of the United Kingdom or of the Dominion of Canada. (*See* "Board of Trade Journal" for 17th September, 1903 (p. 544), and 21st July, 1904 (p. 116)).

MAURITIUS.

Increased Customs and Excise Duties.

A copy of the "Customs and Excise Ordinance, 1904" (No. 21 of 1904), dated 1st December, 1904, has been received from the Acting Collector of Customs at Port Louis, providing for the imposition of a *surcharge* of 20 per cent. upon all sums payable as customs duties, whether fixed or *ad valorem*, on goods imported

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

MAURITIUS—*continued.*

into Mauritius, except upon the duties on dholl, lentils, rice, salt fish, wheat flour and Indian corn flour. The previous surcharge of four per cent. imposed on all goods under Ordinance 25 of 1901 will now remain chargeable on these latter goods only.

The present Ordinance also revises the *excise* duties upon spirits and wines which were levied under Ordinances Nos. 11 and 50 of 1899 as follows :—

Articles.	Excise Duties.	
	Old Rates.	New Rates.
	R. Cts.	R. Cts.
Spirits ... ... *per litre*	1 45	1 67
Wine ... ... *per hectolitre*	8 42	9 18
With a further duty per degree or fraction of a degree of alcohol, per hectolitre, and a proportional duty per fraction of a degree above 16 degrees, according to Gay Lussac's alcohometer, contained in such wine, of	1 45	1 67

EGYPT.

Despatch of Merchandise to Cairo in Bond.

The Egyptian "Journal Officiel" for the 24th December, contains a notification of the Egyptian Customs Department to the effect that, on and after the 15th January, merchandise of all descriptions, except that imported loose, and except dangerous and inflammable substances, may be sent *in bond* to Cairo, without payment of Customs duty.

The Alexandria Bonded Warehouse Company, Limited, is authorised to receive and warehouse such merchandise in its warehouses; and the Customs duties and other taxes due to the Administration will be levied by the Cairo Customs as the goods are withdrawn.

More detailed information may be obtained from the Directors of Customs at Alexandria, Cairo, Port Said, and Suez.

Valuation Tariff for Coal and Coke.

The Egyptian "Journal Officiel" for the 4th January contains the new Tariff of Valuations* in use by the Egyptian Customs Authorities for the purpose of assessing Customs duties on coal and coke, which came into operation on the 1st January, and is to remain in operation for a period of 12 months, or until denunciation. The Tariff is as follows :—

* For particulars as to the nature of these Egyptian Valuation Tariffs, *see* "Board of Trade Journal" for the 19th March, 1903, pp. 589-90.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

EGYPT—*continued.*

	Valuation per ton of 1,000 kilogs. (2,204 lbs.)†	
	Former.	New.
	£E‡	£E‡
South Wales coal—Cardiff, Swansea, Newport ...	0·940	0·900
Newcastle, Sunderland, and other North Country coal	0·750	0·720
Lancashire, Yorkshire, North Wales and Scotch coal...	‖0·700 §0·720	0·690
Newcastle gas coal, for the use of the gas factory ...	0·625	0·605
Briquettes (patent fuel) of any origin	0·900	0·860
Dust, slack, and small coal of any origin, excluding nuts	0·500	0·490
Foundry coke and Cannel coal	1·250	1·150
Gas coke, of any origin	1·000	0·900
American coal	1·000	0·960
French, Belgian and German coal	0·700	0·880
Anthracite coal, of any origin	1·360	1·200

† Duty is charged on these valuations at the rate of 8 per cent.
‡ 1,000 millièmes = £E 1 = 1*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*
‖ Lancashire, Yorkshire and North Wales coal.
§ Scotch coal.

Valuation Tariffs for Exports.

The same issue of the "Journal Officiel" also contains two Valuation Tariffs for the purpose of assessing export duties on various articles of Egyptian produce. One of these, in force for the current month only, contains valuations for cotton, sugar, rice, and other cereals and vegetables. The second, in force from the 1st January to the 31st March, 1905, contains valuations for a number of miscellaneous articles such as sesame, flax, tow, wool, ivory, wax, hides and skins of various sorts, horns and hoofs, cotton-seed oil, &c., &c.

These Tariffs may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

NETHERLANDS.

Free Admission of Sulphuric Ether and Collodion for the Manufacture of Photographic Paper.

The Dutch "Staatscourant" for the 7th January, contains the text of a Royal Decree exempting from import duty, subject to certain conditions, sulphuric ether and collodion for use in the manufacture of photographic paper.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ITALY—CUBA.

Commercial Treaty between above States.

The Board of Trade are in receipt of information to the effect that the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between Italy and Cuba, which was concluded in December, 1903, was ratified at Havana on the 2nd December, 1904.

The Treaty in question provides for the reciprocal accord of most-favoured-nation treatment in all matters relating to commerce and navigation. The coasting and fishing trades of the two countries, however, are to remain regulated by the Laws of the respective States, and it is expressly provided that any tariff concessions which Cuba may grant to other American countries are to be excepted from the scope of the Treaty.

A translation of the Treaty may be seen by those interested on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

ROUMANIA.

Revised List of Excise Duties.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a translation of the Roumanian Excise Duties Law, as altered and amended in the Roumanian Ministry of Finance, showing the rates of Excise duty now levied in Roumania. These duties (which are levied on imports as well as on articles of domestic production) are with few exceptions the same as those stated in the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 16th April, 1903 (p. 116), the only alterations of importance being the following:—

(NOTE.—Additions to the Schedule are indicated by *italic* type.)

No.	Description of Article.	Present Rate of Excise Duty.		
			Frs.	Cts.
3	Spirituous essence	Kilog.	1	00
12	Essence of vinegar manufactured with acetate of lime, and other products *used in the manufacture of comestible vinegar*...	Litre	0	75
27	Add *mackerel** and *tunny* ... ... [Cod and marinated salmon are removed from this heading.]	Kilog.	0	10
33	Flour *and semolina*† of wheat or rye ... ... [The heading is no longer restricted to flour for bread-making.]	100 Kilogs.	0	75
34	Add *arrow-root*	Kilog.	0	05
36	Add *paraffin* and *benzine, except for use in industries (motors or other)*	"	0	12

* *Dried* mackerel (*tziri*) are already included under this heading.
† Semolina was previously dutiable under No. 34.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Customs Decisions.

The following is the substance of some decisions affecting the application of the United States Customs Tariff, which have recently been issued by the Treasury Department at Washington:—

Parcel Post Convention with Norway.—A Parcel Post Convention is now in force between the United States and Norway. The provisions of this Convention are generally similar to those of the Convention recently concluded between the United States and Japan (*see* "Board of Trade Journal" for the 8th September, 1904, p. 456).

The regulations prescribed for parcels from Japan are applicable to parcels from Norway.

Turkish towels composed wholly or in chief value of flax are dutiable under the provisions of paragraph 346 of the Tariff, according to the statutory particulars therein described, and not at the rate of 45 per cent. *ad valorem* under paragraph 347.

Assessment of ad valorem duties on goods bought and paid for by the ton.—Where goods bought and paid for by the ton weight are subject to *ad valorem* rates of duty the value upon which duty should be assessed is to be determined by multiplying the number of tons and fractions of tons *which arrive* by the proper value per ton, and upon that amount the duty should be assessed, whether the weight imported is greater or less than the weight specified in the invoice.

Cotton hose.—Stockings, hose, and half hose, composed of vegetable fibre, which are in any degree selvaged, fashioned, narrowed, or shaped by a knitting machine or frame, are dutiable under the provisions of paragraph 318 of the Tariff, and not under the provisions of paragraph 317.

Hone-stone polishers.—The provision in paragraph 574 of the Tariff for "hones and whetstones" is limited to articles used for sharpening tools and other instruments, and certain hone-stone articles that are principally used by lithographers and marble polishers for smoothing purposes, and are not commercially known as hones, are not covered by said paragraph, but are dutiable under section 6 as unenumerated manufactured articles at the rate of 20 per cent. *ad valorem.*

Paste buttons.—As paste, although a species of glass, is differentiated from glass in the Tariff, buttons of paste are held not to be covered by the provision in paragraph 414 for "buttons made of glass," but to be dutiable as manufactures of paste, not specially provided for, under paragraph 112, at the rate of 45 per cent. *ad valorem.*

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

Beads temporarily strung.—The provision in paragraph 408 of the Tariff for "beads of all kinds, not threaded or strung," was intended to exclude only beads permanently threaded or strung, as in the manufacture of fabrics and other articles, and is held to include metal beads intended for the manufacture of purses, threaded or strung temporarily for purposes of transportation and sale only, on cheap, weak, cotton threads, and formed into bunches.

Also the following :—

Articles.	Paragraph of the Tariff under which dutiable.	Rate of Duty.
Common brown earthenware figures in the form of animals, corrugated or embossed in the process of moulding, and partially or wholly salt-glazed ...	94	25 % *ad val.*
Thin disks of carbon used for electrical purposes but not for electric lighting	97	35 % "
So-called "lubricating oil," consisting chiefly of resin oil partially saponified by treatment with acid and other chemicals, dutiable as alizarin assistant not specially provided for	32	30 % "
Linen thread waste, as "waste fit only for conversion into paper"	632	Free

SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

JAMAICA.

Railway Rates for Bananas.

The "Jamaica Gazette" of 24th November, publishes an Order issued by the Governor of that Colony approving different rates being charged for the conveyance of bananas on the Jamaica Railway at different periods of the year, a higher rate at the period when prices for fruit are higher, and a lower rate when prices are less.

RUSSIA.

Alternative Route to Connect the Siberian Railway with Western Russia.

A recent issue of the "Commercial and Industrial Gazette" (St. Petersburg) states, with reference to the new alternative route to connect the Siberian railway with the West of Russia, authorised by Imperial Decree of 18th/31st October last, granting a credit of 10,000,000 roubles for preliminary surveys, that a Russian engineer is already undertaking surveys of the projected route from Tiumen

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Shipping and Transport.

RUSSIA—*continued.*

to Omsk, a distance, in a straight line, of about 660 versts (400 miles). The rail over the intervening tract will traverse the districts of Tiumen, Yalutorovsk, Ishim and Tiukalinsk—rich agricultural regions. The ground is low-lying, watered by the Puishma, Tobol and Ishim, over which bridges, presenting no technical difficulties, will have to be constructed. The preliminary investigations are to be completed in the shortest possible period. Tiumen, at present, is the terminus of the Ekaterinburg-Tiumen branch line, running parallel with the main Siberian railway from Cheliabinsk to Kourgan, and forms the eastern offshoot of the Viatka-Perm-Ekaterinburg line.

As regards the western link of the new route—the St. Petersburg-Vologda-Viatka line, now in course of construction, which will bring the capital into direct communication with Siberia—the works are stated to be progressing in a comparatively satisfactory manner. The line has been divided, for building purposes, into seven sections, the sixth and seventh, or extreme eastern, now nearing completion. On the stretch from Viatka to Kotelnich the bed of the line is completely ballasted. The bridge over the Bistritsa is nearly finished. From Kotelnich westward the line is laid for 160 versts. The Viatka will be crossed at Kotelnich by an iron bridge now half finished. The iron bridges over the Vetluga and the Unja will be ready in about a year.

The engineers expect to finish the eastern section of the line, that from Vologda to Viatka, about 560 versts (373 miles) in length, in a year; the western portion, from St. Petersburg to Vologda, by about next autumn.

In connection with the foregoing, the British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. Henry Cooke) sends a translation from the "Russki Viedomosti" of Moscow of 11th/24th December, reporting the arrival at St. Petersburg of deputations from the Tomsk Town Council and the Tomsk Bourse Committee to urge the preference of a line from Tiumen, *viâ* Ishim or Tara, to Tomsk and Marinsk, in place of the line from Tiumen to Omsk strongly urged by the Moscow mercantile community.

Trans-Baikal Railway.

The British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. Henry Cooke) reports that, according to the "Irkutsk Viedomosti," with the laying of a second track it has been decided to bring the traffic capacity of the Trans-Baikal line up to 40 pairs of trains per day. A special commission from the Ministries of Ways, Finance and State Control has been despatched to determine the supplementary works necessary. The line is to be widened over an extent of 1,183 versts (788 miles). Special technical difficulties in this connection are expected to be encountered in the delta of the

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Shipping and Transport.

RUSSIA—*continued.*

Selenga, where the line passes by a narrow defile over the Sagan-Daban mountain range, and in the ascent over the Yablonski ridge. 300,000 rails will be required, weighing over 3,000,000 pouds, and costing 3,400,000 roubles. It is proposed to carry out the work required in the coming building season.

GERMANY.

Shipping at Hamburg in 1904.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul-General at Hamburg (Sir W. Ward) enclosing a statement, taken from official statistics, showing the total number and tonnage of the sea-going ships of all nations (including coasting vessels) which entered and cleared at the Port of Hamburg in the year 1904, as compared with preceding years.

From this statement it appears that 14,861 sea-going ships with a total registered tonnage of 9,613,000 tons entered in 1904, as compared with 14,028 with a tonnage of 9,156,000 in 1903; whilst as regards clearances, in 1904 they numbered 14,843 of 9,621,000 total tonnage, as compared with 14,073, of 9,221,000 total tonnage in 1903.

Both the total number and the total tonnage of the sea-going ships entering and clearing in 1904 was the largest on record.

DUTCH WEST INDIES.

New Service of Steamers between Curaçoa and European Ports.

A despatch has been received from H.M. Consul at Curaçoa, reporting that the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company have started a regular monthly line of cargo steamers between London, Cardiff, the British West India Islands and Curaçoa, returning home *viâ* Venezuelan Ports, Trinidad and Havre.

ITALY.

New Special Railway Tariff for Food Products Consigned Abroad.

The "Bollettino delle Finanze" of 12th January states that a new special railway tariff for the transport of food products consigned to foreign countries has been approved by the Italian Minister of Public Works, and will come into force on 1st April next.

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MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

RUSSIA.

Platinum Industry.

The following particulars of the platinum industry in Russia are taken from a summary of an article in the "Commercial and Industrial Gazette" (St. Petersburg), forwarded by the British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr H. Cooke).

The Ural platinum industry began to develop regularly only from 1869, though dating from 1825. The following figures show the progress made to date in the annual yield:—

	Pouds		Pouds
1869	149	1895	253
1874	120	1896	301
1882	250	1897	344
1888	270	1898	363
1893	310	1899–1904 ...	395 (average)

Prices meanwhile have shown considerable fluctuations, from 1,600 roubles per poud in 1869 to 12,000 roubles in 1890, the following year showing a decrease of over 50 per cent., while by 1898 they rose to 13,000 roubles, and by the current year to prices varying from 16,000 roubles to 19,000 roubles per poud.

The big Ural platinum enterprises at the close of the late summer season showed a deficiency of from 10 to 20 per cent. in the yield, while smaller enterprises considerably increased their output.

The heavy fall in prices in 1891 unfavourably influenced the larger undertakings, nor did any noticeable improvement follow the rise of 1898. At this time offers were made from abroad and accepted for the purchase of platinum, two big undertakings selling their entire yield for a period of 10 years, one for 10,000 roubles, the other for 11,500 roubles per poud. A little later two other companies sold refined metal at 13,000 roubles the poud, but on the condition that if prices in the world's market rose, the buyer should pay 50 per cent. of the difference between the current rate and the contract selling price. At present the price abroad for refined platinum has risen to the big figure of 19,000 roubles per poud, and thus enormous profits are made through the existing contracts. The Ural, supplying 95 per cent. of the world's yield, is still rich in its supplies, but till the present unprofitable agreement lapses the companies concerned can but curtail their output to the lowest conditions allowed by the contracts. Smaller concerns, having a free hand, profit by the high prices prevailing, which, it is expected, will still further rise owing to the curtailment in the yield of the larger companies.

NOTE.—Poud = 36 lbs.

Conference to obtain Restriction of Orders for new Warships to Native Industry.

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" (Brussels) of the 12th January reports that a Conference was held at St. Petersburg on the 18th/31st December, of representatives of Russian shipbuilders and manufacturers with a view to securing for native industry a monopoly of the orders to be placed for the new vessels required for the

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Russian fleet. It was decided to institute an enquiry amongst the industries which would be benefited to ascertain the possibility of executing the necessary orders within terms of three, five, and ten years. The results of this enquiry will be submitted to a further conference to be summoned shortly.

BELGIUM.

Coal and Iron Production of Hainault in 1903.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of a report on the mining and metallurgical industry of the province of Hainault in 1903, from which the following particulars are taken :—

The coal production amounted to 16,544,570 metric tons, of the value of 216,717,980 fr., being an increase of 4·1 per cent. in production and 2·4 per cent. in value, as compared with 1902. Of the 67 mines worked during the year 47 showed a total profit of 21,092,700 fr., and 20 showed a total loss of 3,116,170 fr. In 1902, 52 mines showed a total profit of 23,260,500 fr., and 15 mines a total loss of 2,368,600 fr.

The production of pig-iron amounted to 436,140 metric tons, being an increase of 73,205 metric tons as compared with 1902. The production of finished steel amounted to 133,140 metric tons, as compared with 91,440 tons in 1902.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Bauxite Brick.

According to the "Iron Age" (New York) a patent has just been issued to an Arkansas inventor for making refractory brick out of bauxite, the ore from which aluminium is extracted. The value of bauxite as a refractory material has been known for several years, but its lack of cohesive qualites has heretofore prevented its being moulded into brick. This difficulty, it is claimed, has been overcome by the process now patented, thus giving to the steel trade a practicable and cheap brick for basic furnace lining to replace the expensive magnesite brick now so extensively used. The patent covers the use of a binder with calcined bauxite.

The new process uses a natural bauxite from Arkansas which is particularly low in silica, bonded by a small percentage of plastic fire clay. The amount of silica in the finished brick is considerably less than 10 per cent., and is not appreciably detrimental to its elasticity. This brick is especially adapted for linings of basic open hearth furnaces. The highest grade bauxite bricks are used in the floor and walls up to the slag line, protected by a bed of calcined bauxite. Above the slag line cheaper brick, with a lower percentage of bauxite, may be used. The price at which this brick will be sold is considerably lower than that of magnesite brick and there are one-third more bricks to the ton. They have been severely tested in several of the principal steel plants of the country, and these tests are said to have proved very successful.

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

New source of Garnet.

According to the "Engineering and Mining Journal" (New York), the use of garnet as an abrasive is firmly established in certain manufacturing industries, and there is little doubt that this material will continue to find favour, notwithstanding the great expansion in the utilisation of other abrasives, particularly corundum and carborundum. In the United States the production of garnet now amounts to over 4,000 tons yearly, and the value of the yearly product approximates 30,000*l.* The principal supplies hitherto have been derived from the Adirondack region of New York, smaller quantities being obtained from Pennsylvania, Connecticut and North Carolina. With the opening of some new quarries in the last-named State a larger output may be expected in the future from that section of the country.

YARNS AND TEXTILES.

INDIA.

Cotton Spinning and Weaving Returns for September.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of the monthly return issued by the Indian Government, showing the quantity of cotton yarn spun, and of cotton woven goods produced in each province of British India, and in the Native States, during September of each of the years 1902, 1903 and 1904, and in the six months ended September, 1902, 1903 and 1904.

The following is a summarised statement extracted from the above return, giving particulars for the six months ended September, 1902, 1903 and 1904:—

		Six Months ended September.		
		1902.	1903.	1904.
BRITISH INDIA, BERAR, AND NATIVE STATES.				
Cotton yarn spun	Lbs.	294,231,725	304,830,207	280,220,311
Cotton woven goods produced:—				
Grey goods	"	47,171,047	55,877,772	61,128,613
	= Yards	194,413,663	228,995,418	259,286,288
Figured and coloured goods	Lbs.	9,363,772	11,802,188	11,903,839
Hosiery	"	227,884	345,124	343,450
Miscellaneous goods ...	"	747,454	765,256	1,092,662

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AGRICULTURE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Corn Prices.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 14th January, were as follow:—

Wheat	30*s.*	4*d.*
Barley	24*s.*	6*d.*
Oats	16*s.*	3*d.*

For further particulars see p. 136.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

A statement is published on p. 137, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 14th January, 1905, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1904.

BRITISH INDIA.

Estimated Winter Rice Crop of Bengal.

According to a forecast of the winter rice crop of Bengal, issued on 6th December by the Director of Land Records and Agriculture of that Province, the outturn of the crop works out to 86 per cent. of a normal crop. The gross outturn on 30,217,900 acres may thus amount to 286,391,700 cwts., as compared with 271,721,600 cwts. finally estimated in 1903.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—TASMANIA.

Depôt for Export of Poultry to United Kingdom and South Africa.

According to the "Town and Country Journal" (Sydney) the Tasmanian Government have decided to establish in Hobart a depôt for the export of poultry to England and South Africa. The Tasmanian Refrigerating Company will freeze and store supplies at economical rates; they have entered into a contract with the Federal-Houlder-Shire lines of steamers for transit.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Balata Industry.

The report for 1903-4 on British Guiana, prepared by the Assistant Government Secretary (Mr. J. Hampden King), states that in 1902-3 the balata industry was particularly successful, and in 1903-4 the amount of the gum obtained, 539,498 lbs., was only 1,302 lbs. less. It may also be noted that there has been a certain amount of prospecting for other varieties of rubber, and on one or two estates on the sea coast experimental planting has been done. In the new Crown Lands Regulations, which came into force in October last, opportunity was taken to provide more stringent and effective measures for the protection of the balata-producing forests.

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Agriculture.

JAMAICA.

The Annual Report of the Collector-General in Jamaica contains the following reference to the progress of minor industries in that island:—

Minor Industries.

Cassava.—"The interest taken in cassava growing is increasing, and 15 tons of starch manufactured from this plant have been exported to England. I learn that in one parish the manufacture of starch is to be undertaken on a large scale by a company, and if this enterprise passes through the experimental stage successfully, the manufacture of starch should become one of our paying industries.

Cotton.—"The interest taken in the cultivation of cotton in this island is increasing steadily. Two small shipments have been made, indicating the beginning of what may yet prove to be a very important industry, and in this connection I may mention that a gin has been erected on one property at which cotton from other places is prepared for market.

Rice.—"Rice is grown in but few parishes, viz., Trelawny, Westmoreland, and St. Catherine. The cultivation in Trelawny consists of 41 acres; in Westmoreland there are 100 acres under cultivation, and in St. Catherine 7 acres. This smallness of cultivation is disappointing, in the face of the fact that we send out of the country large sums of money to purchase a commodity which could be produced to a large extent at home.

Tea.—"Tea is now grown in one parish, St. Ann, and a measure of success has attended this industry, but the cultivation has not yet been taken up by more than one proprietor. The collector for St. Ann reports that the undertaking is full of promise.

Hard-woods.—"Reference has from time to time been made to the hard-woods in the country, but there has been no attempt hitherto to show their value in money. The Director of the Jamaica Railway who has become a large purchaser of late years for the railway, has, however, afforded some information, from which it is gleaned that during the past year 69,795 hard-wood sleepers were supplied to the railway, for which the sum of 13,587*l.* was paid."

RUSSIA.

The British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. Henry Cooke) sends a translation from the "Sibirskaia Jizn" of Tomsk of 9th/22nd December, which states that 54,193 dessiatines (146,321 acres) were sown in 1904 under wheat and spring grain in the Amour territory, or 9,000 dessiatines more than in 1903. The grain crop everywhere in the Amour territory this past year was excellent, both as regards quality and quantity, 3,593,000 pouds of wheat,

Grain Crop in the Amour Region.

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Agriculture.

and 486,000 of spring grain being gathered in, or 4,079,000 pouds in all, exceeding the crop of the previous year by 1,144,000 pouds. In spite of the existing prohibition, Manchurian grain was nevertheless imported into Blagovestchensk during the past navigation season, and rapidly converted into flour, which was distributed on all sides. On the authority of the millers themselves, 1,500,000 pouds of Manchurian grain were imported during the navigation season.

NOTE.—Dessiatine = 2·7 acres; pound = 36 lbs., or 1,000,000 pouds = 16,121 tons.

MISCELLANEOUS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

State of the Labour Market in December, 1904.

A report published in the "Labour Gazette"* of 16th January, based on 4,643 returns, viz.: 3,058 from Employers, or their Associations, 1,502 from Trade Unions, and 83 from other sources, states that employment in December was dull on the whole, and rather worse than a month ago. A further decline took place in the engineering, printing, furnishing and building trades. On the other hand some improvement took place in the coal trade, and also in the iron and steel, shipbuilding and worsted trades.

As compared with a year ago there was some considerable improvement in the cotton, woollen, worsted and tinplate industries, and a decline in the building, engineering, furnishing and printing trades,

A comparison of the returns for the end of December with those of the previous month is, to some extent, affected by Christmas and New Year holidays, and allowance must therefore be made for this disturbing influence when considering the figures given below.

In the 272 Trade Unions, with an aggregate membership of 573,726, making returns, 43,435 (or 7·6 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of December, as compared with 7·0 per cent. at the end of November, and 6·7 per cent. at the end of December, 1903.

Cotton Statistics.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 12th January 1905, was 151,282, and the number imported during the 2 weeks ended the 12th January was 300,083. As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 12th January, 1904, 20,351 bales and for the 2 weeks, 37,608.

For further details see p. 136.

* For list of principal contents of the "Labour Gazette," see p. 140.

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Miscellaneous.

UNITED KINGDOM—*continued.*

Bankruptcy Statistics.

The total number of receiving orders gazetted in England and Wales during the month of December last was 370, as compared with 400 during December, 1903.

For detailed particulars see pp. 138-9.

Fishery Statistics, December, 1904.

The following statement shows the quantity and value of fish landed on the English and Welsh, Scotch, and Irish Coasts during the month and twelve months ended 31st December, 1904, compared with the corresponding periods of the year 1903:—

—	Month of December.				Twelve Months ended December.			
	1903.		1904.		1903.		1904.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
England and Wales—	Cwts.	£	Cwts.	£	Cwts.	£	Cwts.	£
Fish, excluding shell fish	861,487	528,114	857,549	521,726	10,403,200	6,176,673	10,823,361	6,020,511
Shell fish	—	24,816	—	22,039	—	278,937	—	299,176
Total Value ...	—	552,930	—	543,765	—	6,455,610	—	6,319,687
Scotland—								
Fish, excluding shell fish	311,967	124,129	306,340	108,455	6,474,387	2,401,253	7,946,598	2,230,464
Shell fish	—	5,373	—	4,311	—	73,598	—	76,502
Total Value ...	—	129,502	—	112,766	—	2,474,851	—	2,306,966
Ireland—								
Fish, excluding shell fish	66,196	28,566	64,282	21,037	715,287	320,499	925,257	311,675
Shell fish	—	1,076	—	629	—	12,732	—	11,959
Total Value ...	—	29,642	—	21,666	—	333,231	—	323,634

NOTE.—All the above figures are subject to correction in the annual returns.

CEYLON.

Pearl Fishery of 1905.

The "Ceylon Government Gazette" of 16th December contains a notice to the effect that a pearl fishery will take place at Marichchikkaddi, in the Island of Ceylon, on or about 20th February, 1905.

The banks to be fished are the South-West Cheval Paar, which is estimated to contain 3,500,000 oysters, sufficient to employ 200 boats for two days with average loads of 10,000 each a day; the Mid-East Cheval Paar, estimated to contain 13,750,000 oysters, sufficient to employ 200 boats for seven days with average loads of 10,000 each a day. The North and South Moderagam, with 25,700,000 oysters, sufficient to employ 200 boats for 13 days with average loads of 10,000 each day; the South Cheval Paar,

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Miscellaneous.

estimated to contain 40,220,000 oysters, sufficient to employ 200 boats for 20 days with average loads of 10,000 each a day; each boat being fully manned with divers.

The fishery will be conducted on account of Government, and the oysters put up to sale in such lots as may be deemed expedient.

The arrangements of the fishery will be the same as have been usual on similar occasions. Persons attending the fishery camp from India will be permitted to travel to Ceylon by either of the following routes:—(1) Tuticorin to Colombo, or (2) Paumben to Marichchikkaddi—and by no other. Arrangements will be made as at the last fishery for travellers to proceed from Paumben direct to the camp. The only restriction imposed on travellers by the Paumben route will be inspection by the Medical Officer at Paumben.

For the convenience of purchasers the Treasurer at Colombo and the different Government Agents of Provinces will be authorised to receive cash deposits from parties intending to become purchasers, and receipts of these officers will be taken in payment of any sums due on account of the fishery.

No deposit will be received for a less sum than Rs. 250.

All communications regarding the fishery must be addressed to the Government Agent, Northern Province, Jaffna, Ceylon, up to the end of January, after which date they should be addressed to him at Marichchikkaddi.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

Trade in 1903-4.

The following figures of imports and exports of Trinidad and Tobago for the years 1901-2, 1902-3, and 1903-4 are extracted from the report on the Colony recently issued by the Colonial Office:—

—	1901-02.	1902-03.	1903-04.
Imports—	£	£	£
Merchandise	2,558,149	2,640,001	2,458,429
Bullion and specie	93,451	32,086	68,021
Exports—			
Merchandise*	2,372,150	2,437,843	2,241,680
Bullion and specie	73,501	34,338	33,651
*Includes value of—			
Sugar	453,304	414,396	488,418
Cocoa	953,287	1,078,498	1,062,417
Asphalt	159,044	170,563	198,716

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Miscellaneous.

FRANCE—INDO-CHINA.

Fishing Industry.

The "Politique Coloniale" remarks that among the many industries which still remain undeveloped in Tonkin must be included fishing and the preservation of fish. 1,320 tons of dried and salted fish were exported from Tonkin during 1903, and it is estimated that at least four times that quantity was consumed locally, fish being the staple food of the natives. The year's output of fish from the Gulf of Tonkin is therefore over 6,000 tons of the value of 160,000*l.* A large number of persons are engaged in this industry, mainly Chinese, who come in junks from towns near Tonkin and from the Island of Hainan. In spite of defective apparatus, these fishermen make large profits. Steps are being taken to develop the industry. A company, recently formed at Haiphong, with a capital of 8,000*l.*, are about to import steam trawlers and suitable nets; it is hoped that a largely increased output will result.

ITALY.

Trade with the United Kingdom.

In his recent statistical report on the foreign trade of Italy for the year 1903, after giving a series of tables showing for five years the total value of imports into and exports from Italy of a number of groups of articles, as well as the value of the British share in each case, the Commercial Attaché to H.M. Embassy at Rome (Mr. A. P. Bennett) remarks:—

"A study of the foregoing figures will show that although on the whole there have been no violent fluctuations in the established trade between Italy and the United Kingdom during the last five years, there is yet a tendency to decline, especially in the case of exports from Italy. The value of the principal articles exported from the United Kingdom to Italy, viz., coal, metals, machinery, chemical products, earthenware, glass, cotton and wool continues, however, to be fairly well maintained." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,320.)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

Development of Hungarian Industry.

The "Journal de la Chambre de Commerce de Constantinople" states that active measures are contemplated in Hungary with a view to developing national industries and to introducing certain fresh industries into the country. With this end in view, the Minister of Commerce has drawn up an elaborate report, which has been placed before the Council of National Industry.

The following are among the principal points of this report:—

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Miscellaneous.

The industries which it would be most desirable to foster are:—weaving, spinning, manufactures of apparel, manufactures of iron and other metals, and the leather, timber, and pottery industries.

As regards woollen goods, great importance is attached to the development of the manufacture of those suitable for the rural population.

The value of the annual consumption of cotton piece-goods in Hungary amounts to 148,000,000 crowns; of these, national industry produces only 15,000,000 crowns' worth. To make up the deficit, it would be necessary to have 1,000,000 spindles and 40,000 looms at work, instead of 113,000 and 4,400 respectively, as at present.

The manufacture of machine-tools and chemical products is also to be encouraged.

The Minister of Commerce is of opinion that if the manufacturers and capital necessary for the development of these industries cannot be found in Hungary, recourse should be had to foreign sources.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—ALASKA.

The following extracts have been taken from the annual report for 1904 of the United States Secretary of Commerce and Labour:—

Seal Catch for 1904.

As a result of the sealing operations for the year ended August, 1904, 13,128 skins were taken and shipped, of which number 11,132 were obtained on St. Paul Island and 1,996 on St. George Island, as against a total of 19,292 skins taken in 1903. The decrease in the number of skins taken, 6,164, was due largely to the reservation of young male seals for breeding purposes, and other restrictions upon the killing deemed necessary to preserve the life of the seal herd.

Fox Raising.

An industry pursued incidentally with that of sealing on the Pribilof Islands is that of raising the blue fox for its pelt. These animals, under the system in use, are fed and cared for as if domesticated. The foxing industry is carried on under a lease with the sealing company. Last winter 471 skins were taken on St. George Island. The proceeds of the skins are applied to the support of the native inhabitants, whose services are utilised in the taking and curing of the pelts.

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STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the Week and 2 Weeks ended 12th January, 1905.

—	Week ended 12th Jan., 1905.	2 Weeks ended 12th Jan., 1905.	Week ended 12th Jan., 1905.	2 Weeks ended 12th Jan., 1905.
	Imports. (Bales.)		Exports. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American	133,401	264,964	17,720	31,392
Brazilian	1,984	1,984	—	—
East Indian	1,323	2,438	516	566
Egyptian	9,796	20,410	1,989	5,524
Miscellaneous	4,778	10,287	126	126
Total	151,282	300,083	20,351	37,608

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 14th January, 1905, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

—	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 14th January, 1905	30	4	24	6	16	3
Corresponding week in—						
1898	34	11	27	10	17	5
1899	27	0	27	11	17	1
1900	26	0	25	8	16	2
1901	26	11	25	9	17	3
1902	27	8	26	11	20	0
1903	24	11	24	1	16	10
1904	26	11	22	3	15	9

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

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Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 14th January, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

—		Week ended 14th Jan., 1905.	*Corresponding Week in 1904.*
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number.	10,907	*3,368*
Sheep and lambs	"	8,947	*3 291*
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	284	*351*
Fresh Meat :—			
Beef	Cwts.	93,268	*50,052*
Mutton	"	81,959	*39,609*
Pork	"	19,894	*16,824*
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Cwts.	130,089	*105,134*
Beef	"	3,568	*4,300*
Hams	"	25,675	*23,852*
Pork	"	4,734	*2,911*
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ...	"	9,618	*8,245*
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting...	"	13,399	*22,403*
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwts.	98,289	*86,817*
Margarine	"	20,877	*14,979*
Cheese	"	44,851	*21,013*
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	*15*
" cream	"	61	*100*
" condensed	"	20,211	*15,574*
" preserved, other kinds...	"	10	*6*
Eggs	Grt. Hundr.	324,245	*291,198*
Poultry	Value £	45,813	*24,974*
Game	"	1,993	*5,260*
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	Cwts.	6,485	*7,510*
Lard	"	67,903	*32,868*
Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—			
Wheat	Cwts.	1,026,000	*1,068,200*
Wheat meal and flour	"	228 300	*437,300*
Barley	"	424,000	*394,200*
Oats	"	277,900	*258,000*
Peas	"	42,350	*45,740*
Beans	"	32,390	*19,310*
Maize or Indian corn	"	788,500	*853,200*
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Cwts.	105,328	*80,823*
Apricots and peaches	"	5	*46*
Bananas	Bunches.	57,939	*15,455*
Cherries	Cwts	—	—
Currants...	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	—	—
Grapes	"	223	*63*
Lemons	"	24,946	*14 925*
Oranges	"	131,492	*147,905*
Pears	"	188	*78*
Plums	"	—	—
Strawberries	"	—	—
Unenumerated	"	56	*1,120*
Hay...	Tons.	1,659	*1,944*
Straw	"	2 402	*1,728*
Moss Litter*	"	1,491	—
Hops	Cwts.	1,219	*10,346*
Locust Beans	"	19,456	*15,816*
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels.	87,812	*100.961*
Potatoes	Cwts.	25,755	*193,968*
Tomatoes	"	6,778	*10,337*
Unenumerated	Value £	7,731	*3,591*
Vegetables, dried	Cwts.	3 999	*3,408*
Preserved by canning...	"	3,330	*5,622*

* Not shown in 1904.

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Bankruptcy.—England and Wales.

Number of Receiving Orders Gazetted in the under-mentioned Periods and in the under-mentioned Principal Trades and Occupations.

	December.		Twelve Months ended December.	
	1904.	*1903.*	1904.	*1903.*
Total gazetted...	No. 870	*No. 400*	No. 4,540	*No. 4,258*
Number gazetted in principal trades and occupations:—				
Builders	29	*33*	318	*315*
Grocers, &c....	21	*21*	280	*293*
Publicans and hotel keepers, &c.	22	*11*	253	*236*
Farmers	16	*16*	184	*155*
Bakers	10	*12*	142	*128*
Butchers	8	*5*	135	*99*
Greengrocers, fruiterers, &c.	9	*10*	120	*122*
Boot and shoe manufacturers and dealers ...	15	*4*	115	*102*
Drapers, haberdashers, &c.	5	*16*	110	*114*
Tailors, &c.	11	*7*	100	*90*
Decorators, painters, plumbers, &c.	3	*5*	89	*117*
Fishmongers, poulterers, &c.	3	*6*	60	*71*
Coal and coke merchants and dealers	3	*7*	60	*64*
Jewellers, watchmakers, and silversmiths ...	4	*6*	57	*40*
Clerks, commercial and general	8	*5*	57	*49*
Furniture dealers and makers	2	*9*	52	*54*
Carriers, carmen, lightermen, and hauliers ...	4	*3*	50	*49*
Auctioneers	5	*3*	50	*47*
Agents, commission and general	3	*8*	50	*55*
Bicycle, &c., manufacturers and dealers ..	5	*4*	47	*41*
Engineers and founders, &c.	3	*4*	46	*25*
General dealers	3	*4*	43	*37*
Corn, flour, seed, hay, and straw merchants and dealers	2	*3*	42	*32*
Travellers, commercial	7	*3*	41	*32*
Tobacconists, &c.	1	*9*	41	*46*
Carpenters and joiners	3	*6*	41	*46*
Confectioners	3	*7*	39	*64*
Printers, booksellers, and publishers	2	*1*	38	*33*

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Bankruptcy.—England and Wales—*continued.*

	December.		Twelve Months ended December.	
	1904.	*1903.*	1904.	*1903.*
	No.	*No.*	No.	*No.*
Number gazetted in principal trades and occupations—*continued:*				
Cabinet makers and upholsterers	5	*3*	38	*23*
Gardeners, florists, &c.	5	*2*	34	*30*
Ironmongers	4	*4*	34	*28*
Saddlers and harness makers	3	*2*	33	*20*
Restaurant, coffee and eating-house keepers ...	2	*3*	33	*29*
Solicitors	1	*3*	32	*49*
Blacksmiths, farriers, &c.	2	*3*	32	*25*
Directors and promoters of public companies ...	2	*5*	31	*28*
Clothiers, outfitters, &c.	2	*3*	31	*34*
Milliners, dressmakers, &c.	2	*5*	30	*26*
Contractors	4	*2*	28	*25*
Dairymen, cowkeepers, &c.	4	*4*	28	*21*
Carriage, &c., builders	1	*5*	27	*29*
Provision merchants, &c.	2	*2*	27	*23*
Lodging-house keepers	3	*6*	26	*43*
Architects and surveyors	1	*3*	25	*12*
Chemists, druggists and chemical manufacturers	3	*2*	25	*25*
Officers in Army	4	*1*	25	*23*
Hairdressers	1	*1*	24	*26*
Merchants, general	—	*2*	22	*30*
Cab, omnibus and fly proprietors	1	*2*	22	*32*
Schoolmasters and schoolmistresses	3	*2*	21	*16*
Millers	—	—	20	*9*
China, glass, and earthenware, &c., dealers ...	2	*2*	20	*24*
Timber merchants and wood dealers	1	*2*	20	*16*
Wheelwrights	2	*1*	19	*18*
Stone, marble and monumental masons, &c. ...	2	—	19	*9*
Cattle and pig dealers	3	—	18	*7*
Doctors of medicine, physicians, &c.	2	*5*	18	*19*
Hosiers, glovers, &c.	2	*1*	16	*19*
Woollen merchants and manufacturers... ...	1	*1*	16	*12*
Stationers	1	*2*	16	*20*
Wine and spirit merchants, &c.	—	*1*	14	*13*
Brokers, stock and share	—	*1*	13	*15*
Curriers, tanners, and leather merchants ...	1	*2*	10	*12*
Cotton spinners and manufacturers	—	*2*	5	*9*
Fishing smack owners, and masters	—	—	4	*3*

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GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of December, 1904, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance of 1*s.* per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1903, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s.* 1*d.* for the first, and 5*s.* for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1899–1903, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade on the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appeared in the number issued in January:—State of the Labour Market in December; Changes in Wages and Hours in 1904; Relief of the Unemployed; Co-operation in 1903; Housing Problem in Canada; Irish Migratory Labourers; Industrial Census of Roumania; and Illinois Free Employment Registries.

FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in a Consular Report of the **Miscellaneous Series** issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

No. 625. Rice Industry in the United States.

Remarkable increase in production of rice: 250,280,221 lbs. in fiscal year 1898-99, estimated production of 470,000,000 lbs. in 1904.

Details of cultivation, selection and cost of preparation of land, irrigation methods, seed, labour, &c.

Damage caused by rice pests: bobolinks or ricebirds, blackbirds, &c.

Particulars of bye-products.

Rice-milling and allied industries.

Tabular statements of rice farming finance.

Legislation affecting rice-growers in Louisiana and Texas.

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Government Publications.

LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

THE following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since 1st January, 1904, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

No.	Place.	Price
	EUROPE—	
	Austria-Hungary:	
3199	Austria-Hungary ...1903	1½*d.*
3255	Bohemia ... ... „	1*d.*
3297	Bosnia and Herzegovina „	1*d.*
3260	Fiume ... ... „	1*d.*
3233	Trieste and Lissa ... „	2*d.*
	Belgium:	
3125	Antwerp: Shipping and Navigation 1903	1*d.*
3116	Belgium: Finances and Commerce in 1902 and Budget Estimates for 1904	2*d.*
3275	Belgium 1903	2½*d.*
604	*Canals and other Navigable Waterways of Belgium* ...	*11½d.*
612	*Customs Tariff of Belgium*	*1d.*
	Bulgaria:	
3236	Bulgaria 1903	1*d.*
	Denmark:	
3113	Denmark (Supplementary) 1902	½*d.*
3119	Denmark (Financial condition)	1½*d.*
3180	Denmark 1903	3½*d.*
3138	Iceland... ... 1900–02	1½*d.*
	France and French Colonies:	
3226	Algeria 1903	2½*d.*
3246	Bastia ... ... „	½*d.*
3184	Bordeaux ... ... „	2½*d.*
3176	Brest ... ... „	1½*d.*
3146	Calais ... ... „	2½*d.*
3149	Cherbourg ... ... „	2½*d.*
3181	Cochin-China ... ... „	2*d.*
3310	Dahomey ... ... „	½*d.*
3216	Dunkirk ... ... „	1½*d.*
3301	France: 1903, and 8 months of 1904	1½*d.*
3172	French Budget for 1904	2*d.*
3313	French Guinea ...1903	1*d.*
3171	Havre ... ... „	3*d.*
3117	Indo-China 1902	1*d.*
3164	„ „ ... 1903–04	1*d.*
3316	Ivory Coast 1903	1*d.*
3243	Lyons, St. Etienne, and Grenoble ... ... „	1*d.*
3254	Madagascar 1903	1½*d.*
3230	Marseilles ... ... „	2½*d.*
3300	Martinique ... ... „	1*d.*
3130	Nantes ... ... „	1*d.*
3201	Nice ... ... „	½*d.*
3147	Pondicherry & Karikal „	1*d.*
3312	Senegal... ... ... „	1*d.*
3289	Society Islands ... „	1½*d.*
	German Empire and Colonies:	
3196	Baden 1903	½*d.*
3145	Chemnitz ... ... „	4*d.*
3244	Dantzig... ... ... „	1½*d.*
3129	Estimates of the German Empire 1904	1*d.*
3221	Frankfort-on-Main ...1903	5½*d.*
3296	German Colonies ...1902–03	3*d.*
3153	Germany 1903	3*d.*
3287	Germany: First half of 1904	2½*d.*
3186	Hamburg ... ... „	3½*d.*
3137	Pomerania ... ... „	2*d.*
3198	Prussian Estimates, 1904–5	1*d.*
601	*Technical Instruction in Germany: Special Schools and Courses for Mechanical Engineering and Electro-Technics*	4½*d.*
602	*Textile Technical Schools in Germany: Development of the Textile Industries*...	5*d.*
603	*Technical Schools in Germany for Special Branches of the Metal Industries* ...	3*d.*
608	*Special Schools for Ship Engineers in Germany* ...	2½*d.*
609	*Technical Instruction in Naval Architecture and Engineering in Germany*..	2½*d.*
611	*Navigation Schools in Germany*	1*d.*
613	*Projected Rhine-Neckar-Danube Ship Canal* ...	3*d.*
615	*Special Technical Schools for the Ceramic Industries*	1½*d.*
616	*Fishing Trade of the Weser Seaports*	1*d.*
618	*Special Technical Schools for the Wood-working Industries*	2*d.*
619	*Commercial Instruction in Germany*	5½*d.*

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Government Publications.

No.	Place.	Price
621	*Art-trade Schools in Germany*	*4d.*
622	*German Machinery, Import and Export Trade and Industry*	*1½d.*
624	*Memorandum on German Cement*	*½d.*
	Greece:	
3179	Cyclades 1903	1½d.
3126	Greece: Finances ...	7d.
3302	Greece: Finances, Economic Progress and Agriculture 1904	2½d.
3257	Ionian Islands... ...1903	2d.
3156	Morea and Provinces of Ætolia and Acarnania ... ... „	1½d.
3166	Piræus ... ... „	1½d.
3148	Thessaly ... ... „	2d.
	Italy:	
3318	Ancona 1903	½d.
3239	Central Italy ... ... „	1½d.
3319	Elba	½d.
3222	Genoa 1903	3d.
3320	Italy ... ... „	1½d.
3120	Italy: Finances ... „	1½d.
3248	Lecce ... ... „	2½d.
3208	Leghorn ... ... „	1½d.
3265	Lombardy ... ... „	2½d.
3268	Sardinia ... ... „	
3213	Sicily ... ... „	2½d.
3118	South Italy ... ... „	2d.
3249	„ „ (Supplementary) ... ... „	2d.
605	*Changes in the Distribution of Works of Art in the Royal Galleries of Florence*	*1d.*
610	*Industrial Development of Italy*	*1½d.*
	Netherlands and Colonies:	
3136	Amsterdam 1903	1d.
3153	Java ... ... „	1½d.
	Norway:	
3252	Norway... 1903	2½d.
	Portugal and Colonies:	
3271	Angola 1903	1d.
3187	Beira ... ... „	1½d.
3211	Chinde ... ... „	3d.
3288	Goa ... ... „	1d.
3264	Lourenço Marques ... „	2d.
3273	Madeira ... ... „	½d.
3183	North Portugal ... „	1½d.
3178	South Portugal ... „	1d.
3210	Tete ... ... „	½d.
	Roumania:	
3204	Roumania 1903	2½d.
	Russia:	
3299	Archangel 1903	1d.
3206	Batoum... ... ... „	1½d.
3278	Finland ... ... „	1d.
3194	Moscow... ... ... „	1½d.
3128	Odessa 1902	2½d.
3277	„ 1903	2½d.
3232	„ (Agriculture) ... „	1½d.
3142	Poland and Lithuania... „	2½d.
3304	Reval ... ... „	1½d.
3272	Riga ... ... „	2d.
3115	Rostov-on-Don ...1902	1½d.
3173	„ „ 1903	2½d.
3253	St. Petersburg... ... „	2½d.
3309	Trans-Caucasus: Agriculture in 1904	½d.
	Servia:	
3189	Servia ... 1902 and nine months of 1903	1d.
	Spain:	
3237	Barcelona 1903	2½d.
3152	Bilbao ... ... „	2½d.
3195	Cadiz ... ... „	2d.
3234	Canary Islands ... „	1d.
3165	Galicia, Asturias, and Leon ... ... „	2½d.
3247	Galicia, Asturias, and Leon (Supplementary) „	1d.
3188	Malaga ... ... „	1½d.
623	*Mining and Metallurgical Industries of Spain in 1903*	*2½d.*
	Sweden:	
3225	Gothenburg 1903	2½d.
3193	Stockholm ... ... „	2d.
3123	Sweden ... 1902–03	1½d.
3215	„ (Supplementary) 1903	1d.
	Switzerland:	
3150	Switzerland 1903	½d.
3314	„ ... ... „	2d.
	Turkey:	
3154	Aleppo and Adana ...1903	2d.
3235	Baghdad ... ... „	1d.
3168	Basra ... ... „	1d.
3192	Beirut and Coast of Syria ... ... „	1d.
3306	Bengazi & Derna..1902 & 1903	2d.
3140	Constantinople ...1903	2½d.
3282	Crete ... ... „	1d.
3266	Damascus ... ... „	1½d.
3224	Erzeroum ... ... „	1d.
3223	Palestine ... ... „	1d.
3250	Salonica ... ... „	1½d.
3170	Smyrna... ... 1902–03	1½d.
3160	Trebizond 1903	1½d.

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No.	Place.	Price
	AFRICA—	
3122	Alexandria 1902	2*d.*
3274	" 1903	3½*d.*
3261	Dar-al-baida ... ... "	2*d.*
3121	Egypt 1887–1902	2½*d.*
3229	Port Said and Suez ...1903	1½*d.*
3135	Liberia ... ... "	1*d.*
3141	Tunis 1902	1½*d.*
3295	" 1903	1½*d.*
3263	Zanzibar and Pemba ... "	1½*d.*
606	*Prospects of Growing Cotton in the East Africa Protectorate ... ...*	1*d.*
607	*Country Produce Traffic on the Uganda Railway ...*	1*d.*
	AMERICA, NORTH—	
	Mexico:	
3112	Mexico 1902	2½*d.*
3285	" 1903	2*d.*
3262	Vera Cruz ... ... "	3*d.*
614	*Livestock in Mexico ...*	2½*d.*
	United States of America:	
3175	Boston 1903	2*d.*
3185	California, Nevada, Utah, and Arizona .. "	2½*d.*
3202	Chicago... ... ... "	3*d.*
3214	Hawaii 1902–03	1*d.*
3133	Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and Kentucky 1903	2½*d.*
3200	New Orleans ... ... "	2*d.*
3159	New York ... ... "	2*d.*
3207	Oregon, Washington, and Idaho ... ... "	2½*d.*
3161	Philadelphia ... ... "	2½*d.*
3177	Porto Rico ... ... "	1½*d.*
3240	Savannah ... ... "	2*d.*
3144	Texas ... ... "	2½*d.*
3279	United States of America 1903–04	2½*d.*
620	*Chicago Summer Vacation Schools ... ...*	1½*d.*
625	*Rice Industry in the United States ... ...*	2*d.*
	AMERICA, CENTRAL—	
3259	Costa Rica 1903	1*d.*
3238	Guatemala ... 1902–03	1½*d.*
	AMERICA, SOUTH—	
	Argentina:	
3131	Argentine Finances, 1902-03	1½*d.*
3157	Rosario 1903	1*d.*
	Brazil:	
3256	Bahia 1903	1*d.*
3217	Brazil: Imports ...1902	1½*d.*
3209	Porto Alegre 1903	1*d.*
3283	Rio de Janeiro ... "	2½*d.*
3191	Rio Grande do Sul, 1901-03	1½*d.*
617	*Railway Systems of Brazil*	10*d.*

No.	Place.	Price
	Chile:	
3258	Chile 1902	½*d.*
3307	" 1903	2*d.*
3124	Coquimbo 1902	½*d.*
	Colombia:	
3284	Barranquilla 1903	½*d.*
3114	Colombia ... ... "	2½*d.*
	Panama.	
3292	Panama 1903	1½*d.*
	Paraguay:	
3241	Paraguay 1903	1½*d.*
	Peru:	
3134	Iquitos 1903	½*d.*
3281	Peru ... ... "	2*d.*
	Uruguay:	
3245	Uruguay ... 1902–03	1*d.*
	Venezuela:	
3203	Caracas... 1903	1*d.*
	WEST INDIES—	
3315	Cuba 1903	2½*d.*
3205	Hayti ... ... "	1*d.*
	ASIA—	
	Borneo:	
3298	Brunei, Sarawak, and British North Borneo 1903	½*d.*
	China:	
3303	Amoy 1903	1*d.*
3174	Chinkiang ... ... "	1*d.*
3270	Canton ... ... "	1½*d.*
3280	China ... ... "	7*d.*
3290	Chungking ... ... "	1½*d.*
3317	Foochow	1½*d.*
3151	Hankow 1903	1½*d.*
3197	Ichang ... ... "	½*d.*
3293	Kiukiang ... 1902–03	2*d.*
3162	Kiungchow 1903	1*d.*
3169	Newchwang ... ... "	1*d.*
3190	Ningpo ... ... "	½*d.*
3231	Pakhoi ... ... "	½*d.*
3155	Swatow... ... ... "	1*d.*
3127	Tientsin ... 1900–03	6½*d.*
3251	Wenchow 1903	½*d.*
3227	Wuchow ... ... "	3½*d.*
3158	Wuhu ... ... "	½*d.*
	Corea:	
3220	Corea 1903	1½*d.*
	Japan:	
3218	Hakodate 1903	1*d.*
3212	Japan ... ... "	2½*d.*
3294	Kobe and Osaka ... "	2*d.*
3242	North Formosa ... "	1*d.*
3269	Nagasaki ... ... "	1½*d.*

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No.	Place.		Price	No.	Place.		Price
3219	Shimonoseki ...	...1903	1*d.*	3182	Persian Gulf ...	...1903	3*d.*
3276	South Formosa	... „	1½*d.*				
3228	Yokohama ...	... „	2*d.*		**Siam:**		
				3286	Bangkok ...	...1903	1½*d.*
	Persia:			3148	Chiengmai ...	...1902	1½*d.*
3308	Azerbaijan ...	1902–04	1*d.*	3291	„ ...	...1903	1½*d.*
3305	Ispahan ...	1901-03	1*d.*				
3167	Kerman ...	1903–04	1*d.*		**PACIFIC ISLANDS—**		
3189	Kermanshah ...	„	2½*d.*	3132	Samoa	...1903	1*d.*

Treaty Series.

The following numbers of the Treaty Series issued since 1st January 1904, may be obtained from the above-mentioned sources:—

No.	———	Price.
	EUROPE—	
	Denmark:	
—	Agreement between the Post Office of the United Kingdom and the Post Office of Denmark for the exchange of postal parcels	3*d.*
	Germany:	
6	Agreement between the United Kingdom and Germany providing for the settlement by arbitration of certain classes of questions which may arise	½*d.*
	Italy:	
8	Agreement between the United Kingdom and Italy providing for the settlement by arbitration of certain classes of questions which may arise	½*d.*
	Portugal:	
10	Agreement between the United Kingdom and Portugal providing for the settlement by arbitration of certain classes of questions which may arise...	½*d.*
	Russia.	
13	Declaration between the United Kingdom and Russia relating to the constitution of an International Commission of Inquiry on the subject of the North Sea incident ...	1*d.*
	Spain:	
4	Agreement between the United Kingdom and Spain providing for the settlement by arbitration of certain classes of questions which may arise...	½*d.*
	Sweden and Norway:	
8	Convention between the United Kingdom and Sweden and Norway providing for the settlement by arbitration of certain classes of questions which may arise	½*d.*
11	Accession of Sweden to the International Copyright Convention	½*d.*
	Switzerland:	
9	Agreement between the United Kingdom and Switzerland providing for the settlement by arbitration of certain classes of questions which may arise	½*d.*
	AMERICA, NORTH—	
	United States of America:	
1	Convention between the United States and Hong Kong for the establishment of a parcel post service	½*d.*
2	Convention respecting Payment of Light and Harbour Dues by vessels of the United States in Zanzibar...	½*d.*

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No.	———	Price.
	WEST INDIES— **Cuba:**	
12	Accession of Cuba to the Industrial Property Convention ...	½*d.*
	ASIA— **China:**	
5	Accession of China to the Geneva Convention for the amelioration of the condition of the wounded in armies in the field	½*d.*
7	Convention between the United Kingdom and China respecting the employment of Chinese Labour in British Colonies and Protectorates	½*d.*

COLONIAL OFFICE REPORTS.

The following Reports relating to H.M. Colonial Possessions issued since 1st January, 1904, may be purchased from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.:—

Annual.

No.	Place.	Price.
413	British Guiana	3*d.*
—	Cyprus	3*d.*
—	Bahamas	1*s.* 2*d.*
414	Jamaica	5½*d.*
415	Falkland Islands	1½*d.*
416	Leeward Islands	3*d.*
417	British Honduras	2½*d.*
418	Bermuda	2*d.*
419	Weihaiwei	3*d.*
420	St. Helena	—
421	Hong Kong	1½*d.*
422	Gibraltar	1½*d.*
423	Sierra Leone	2*d.*
424	Gambia	2½*d.*
425	Ceylon	4*d.*
426	Gold Coast	3½*d.*
427	Lagos	4½*d.*
428	Bahamas	2½*d.*
429	Northern Territories of Gold Coast	1½*d.*
430	Mauritius	4½*d.*
431	Seychelles	4*d.*
432	Barbados	2½*d.*
433	Southern Nigeria	3*d.*
434	Fiji	1½*d.*
435	Straits Settlements	2*d.*
436	Grenada	2½*d.*
437	Northern Nigeria	4*d.*
438	Jamaica	7½*d.*
439	Malta	8½*d.*
440	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1*d.*
441	British Guiana	3*d.*
442	Trinidad and Tobago	2*d.*
443	St. Lucia	2½*d.*
—	Cyprus	2½*d.*

Miscellaneous.

No.	Place.	Price.
26	Northern Nigeria. Report on Mineral and Vegetable Products	2*d.*
27	Selections from Colonial Medical Reports for 1901 & 1902 ...	2*s.* 6*d.*
28	Reports on Rubber in the Gold Coast and Sierra Leone ...	1½*d.*

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THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH

OF THE

BOARD OF TRADE.

The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade was established in 1899, in consequence of a report by a Departmental Committee, with a view to meet the constantly increasing demand for prompt and accurate information on commercial matters in the interests of British trade, so far as it can be met by Government action. It is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference. In addition, it is the duty of the Branch, as far as the interests of British Trade permit, to afford information in reply to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

The office is housed at No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., and (subject to the Comptroller-General of the Commercial, Statistical, and Labour Departments of the Board of Trade) is under the direction of Mr. T. Worthington. The Intelligence Branch endeavours, on application being made to it either personally or by letter, to supply information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender; Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c.

In consequence of the transfer of the Imperial Institute to the Board of Trade from the beginning of 1903, the work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Offices of the Imperial Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch is also in communication with the Imperial Institute at South Kensington, of which Professor Wyndham Dunstan, F.R.S., has been appointed director by the Board of Trade. Among the branches of work in charge of Professor Dunstan are the scientific investigation of the economic products of the British Empire with a view to their commercial utilisation, and the superintendence of the arrangement and classification of the Collection of these products which are exhibited at the Institute. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room at 73, Basinghall Street.

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch and intended for general information is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is now issued weekly at the price of 1*d*. Supplements to the "Board of Trade Journal" are issued quarterly, under the title of the "Imperial Institute Bulletin," containing information and reports bearing on the work carried out in the Imperial Institute at South Kensington.

COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT, BOARD OF TRADE.

January, 1905.

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

To Merchants, Manufacturers, and Shippers whose Advertisements appear in the "Board of Trade Journal."

(*Where no folio is given, Advertisement does not appear in this issue.*)

Absorbent Blottings— PAGE

Tullis, R., & Co., Markinch, Fife ..

Adamantine Clinker (Regd.)—

Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham .. ..

Admiralty Charts—

Potter, J. D., 145, Minories 8

Agents (Colonial & Foreign)—

Heightinson, F. A., & Co., London, E.C. ..

Agricultural Seeds—

Cooper, Tabor & Co., 99 & 92, Southwark Street, S.E. .. ..

Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. .. ..

Air Compressors—

Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks.. .. ..

Ale, Beer, and Stout Merchants—

Dunks & Co., Strand, London .. ..

Alkali Manufacturers—

Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire .. ..

United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ..

Alloys—

Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. .. 18

Ammonia, Anhydrous, & Liquid— PAGE

Brotherton & Co., Leeds (Carbonate of Ammonia, Muriate of Ammonia, &c.) .. ..

Ammonia (Anhydrous), Valves for—

Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd. Glasgow .. ..

Ammunition Manufacturers—

King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., B'ham... 15

Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow .. 10

Antifouling Composition for Ships—

Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton.

Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. .. ..

Anti-friction Metal—

Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. .. 18

Antimony Paint—

Parker & Lester, London, S.E. .. ..

Antiquities in Sundials—

Barker, F., & Son, 13, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Artists' Colours—

Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London E. .. ..

Athletic Goods Manufacturers—

Quaife, Bros. & Lilley, 313, Broad Street, Birmingham .. .. ..

Bags and Sacks— PAGE

Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool .. ..

Baths, Porcelain, Enamelled (Cast Iron)—

Clark, T. & C., & Co., Wolverhampton

Bedding—

Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., South Place, Finsbury, E.C. .. ..

Bedsteads (Iron and Brass)—

Bott, J. T., Ltd., Glover Street, Birmingham .. ..

Evered & Co., London and B'ham ..

Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Bordesley, Birmingham, and South Place, Finsbury, E.C. .. ..

Hoyland, John, Ltd., Birmingham and London .. ..

Bellows—

Brison, E., & Co., Bristol 19

Bevelled and Bent Glass—

Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham 1

Billiard Table Manufacturers—

Cox & Yeman, London, S.W. .. ..

Edwards, George, London, N.W. ..

FORDER & Co.,

LIMITED,

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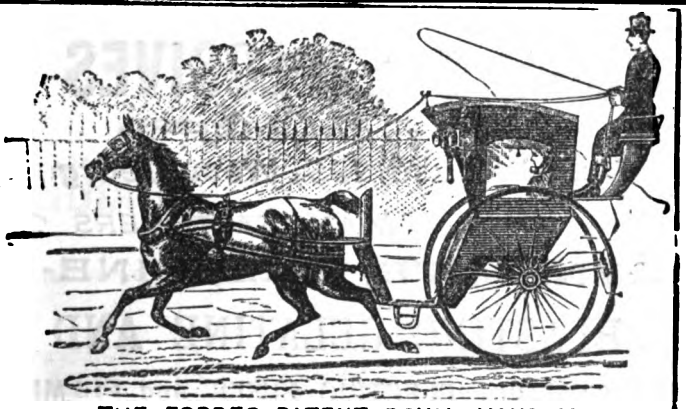

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Binoxide of Barium—
Bessler, Waechter & Co., 18 & 19, Fenchurch Street, E.C. .. .. ..
Hedworth Barium Co., Ld., Newcastle..

Bird Seeds and Foods—
Hyde, R., & Co., London, S.E. .. ..

Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, J., & Son, 58, City Road, E.C...

Biscuit Manufacturers—
Hubbard, Walter, Partick, Glasgow. Export Agent—J. S. Morrison, Son, & Jones, Peninsular Buildings, London, E.C. .. ..

Blankets—Cotton—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Limited, Manchester .. .. ..

Bleaching Powder—
Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire .. ..
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ..

Blue Manufacturers—
Edge, Wm., & Sons, Ltd., Bolton ..

Boiler Incrustation (Prevention and Removal of)—
The Rollerine Manufacturing Co., Old Kent Road, S.E. 5
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ..

PAGE

Boiler Makers—
Butterley Co. (The), Ltd., Derby
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton .. .. ..
Garrett, R., & Son, Ltd., Leiston, R.S.O ..
Hartley & Sugden, Limited, Halifax ..
Marriott & Graham, Govan, N.B. ..

Boiler Makers and Heating Engineers—
Riley, J. Ashton, Ltd., Manchester Road, Huddersfield .. .. ..

Boiler Tubes—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ..

Bolts, Nuts and Screws—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 24
Parsons, Herb. W., B'ngham (Screws, Rivets, Washers, Nails (Roofing)) ..

Bone Mill Manufacturers—
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable .. ..

Boots and Shoes—
Lewis, C. & E., Northampton .. ..

Bottled Fruits—
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading..

Brass Finishers—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ..

Brassfounders—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. .. 18

PAGE

Brass Plate Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn .. ..

Brass Scrap Merchants—
Adams, John, & Sons, Newcastle-on-Tyne.. .. ..

Bread & Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, Joseph & Sons, London, E.C. ..

Brick and Tile Mafrs.—
Craig, J. & M., Ld., Kilmarnock (Enamelled and Glazed Bricks, Glazed Wall Tiles) .. ..
Pearson, E. J. & J., Stourbridge ..
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham .. ..
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ld., Hanley, Staffs

Brickmaking Machinery—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ld., Hanley, Staffs

Bronze Manufacturers—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ..
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ..

Brush Manufacturers—
Brison, E., & Co., Bristol .. .. ..
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ..

Bulbs—
Cooper, Taber & Co., Ltd., London ..

Bunting Manufacturers—
Riley, E., & Co., Providence Street Mills, Leeds .. ..

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Button Manufacturers— PAGE

Smith & Wright, Ltd., Birmingham ..

Cables and Wires—

Connolly Bros., Ltd., Blackley, Manchester 21

Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Limited, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. .. ..

Telegraph Manufacturing Co., Ltd., The, Shirley, Warrington .. ..

Candle Manufacturers—

Gordon & Tennant, Ltd., Aberdeen ..

Price's Patent Candle Co., Limited, London, S.W. .. ..

Carbolic Acid—

Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ..

Carbonic Acid Gas Valves—

Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow .. ..

Carbons—

Ruth, R., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Leeds .. ..

Carpets and Rugs—

Burton, J. R., & Sons, Kidderminster..

Carriage Builders—

Peter & Co., Ltd., Warrant Holders to H.M. the King, Upper St Martin's Lane, W.C.; Works, Wolverhampton 9

Cartridge Manufacturers— PAGE

Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow .. 10

Cement Manufacturers—

Peters Brothers, London, S.W... .. 4

West Kent Portland Cement Co., Burham, near Rochester .. .. Cover

Charm Manufacturers—

Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Chemical Manufacturers—

Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ..

Bessler, Waechter, & Co., London, E.C. .

Blythe, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs .. ..

Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., Northwich Cheshire .. ..

Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith ..

Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle ..

Miller, Jas., Son, & Co., Glasgow ..

The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan .. ..

United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ..

Chemical Manure Manufacturers—

Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London. E.C. ..

Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B. ..

Fison, Joseph, & Co., Ltd., Ipswich ..

Richards, G. H., 284, Borough High Street, S.E. .. ..

United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ..

Chemical & Physical Apparatus—

Reynolds & Branson, Ltd., Leeds ..

Chemists (Manufacturing)— PAGE

Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. .. ..

Scott & Bowne, Ltd., London, E.C. (Scott's Emulsion) ..

Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark-street, London, S.E. .. ..

Chilled Shot—

The Abbey Improved Chilled Shot Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne 2

Chimney Cowl Makers—

Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester .. ..

Chimney Shaft, &c., Builder and Repairer—

Lewis, Joseph, 5 & 6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. .. .. ..

China Clay—

Lovering, John, & Co., St. Austell Cornwall, 8

China Door Furniture Mnfrs.—

Bullers Ltd., London, E.C. 6

China Electrical Fittings—

Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C. 6

China Manufacturers—

Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. .. 6

Lovering, John, & Co., St. Austell Cornwall 8

Chronometers—

Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 & 34, Cockspur Street London .. ..

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Clocks and Watches— PAGE

Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 & 34, Cockspur Street, London . ..
Fallheim.er, J. M. & D., London E.C... 6

Cloth Finishing Machines—

Robertson & Orchar, Dundee .. ..

Clothing (Fustian)—

Brown, R. B., & Sons, Hebden Bridge

Clothing Manufacturers (Fustian)—

Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge.. ..

Clothing and Woollen Mnfrs.—

Grainger & Smith, Dudley .. ..

Cloths for Machinery—

Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury .. ..

Clutch Manufacturers—

Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks .. ..

Coal and Coke—

Cannock Chase Colliery Co., Limited, Birmingham .. ..
Cory Bros., & Co., Ltd., Cardiff.. ..
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cannock, N.B. .. .. Cover
Wharncliffe Woodmoor Colliery Co. Ltd., Barnsley .. ..
Wigan Coal and Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan . 3

Coal Depot Proprietors— PAGE

Cory Bros., & Co., Cardiff.. .. ..
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cannock, N.B. .. .. Cover

Coal Screening Plant—

Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield ..

Coatings—Cotton—

Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Limited, Manchester .. .. ..

Cocoa and Chocolate Machinery—

Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C...

Coffee Mill Manufacturers—

Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C...

Colliery Engines—

Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield ..

Colliery Owners—

Cannock Chase Colliery Co., The, Ltd., Birmingham .. ..
Cory Bros., & Co., Cardiff.. .. ..
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cannock, N.B. .. .. Cover
Wharncliffe Woodmoor Colliery Co., Ltd., Barnsley .. ..

Colour Manufacturers— PAGE

Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen .. ..
Levinstein, Limited, Manchester ..
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ..
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C. .. ..
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. .. ..

Composition for Bottoms of Ships—

Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen .. ..
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton

Compressed Gases (Fittings for)—

Scotch & Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow

Concertinas (English)—

Lachenal & Co., Little James Street, W.C. .. ..

Confectioners—

Craven, M. A., & Son, Ebor Confectionery Works, York .. .. ..

Confectioners' Colours, Essences, &c.—

Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. .. ..
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours and Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., Hackney Wick, N.E. .. ..
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E.
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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Coping and Paving Bricks— PAGE
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley 18

Copper Tape, Wire Rope, &c.—
Connolly Bros., Ltd., Blackley, Manchester 21
Hanley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Limited, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Corks—
Brett, R., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks .. ..

Cotton Bagging—
Jaeger, T. & W., London, S.E. .. ..

Cotton Goods—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury .. ..
Spencer, E., & Co., Manchester .. ..

Cotton Waste—
Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester 4

Cranes, Crab-Winches—
Russell, George, & Co., Motherwell, N.B. .. ..

Creosote— PAGE
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ..
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ..

Damp Wall Compositions—
Sacrelmey & Co., London, S.E. .. ..

Decklights and Porthole Glasses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Birmingham 1

Decorated Tin Plates—
The Tinplate Decorating Co., Ld., Neath .. 6

Decorative Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley 18

Delta Metal Manufacturers—
Delta Metal Co., Limited, London, E.C. 18

Disinfectants—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ..
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ..

Disintegrators—
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable .. ..
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ..

Distillers—
Crawford, Daniel, & Son, Ltd., Glasgow ..
Dailuaine-Talisker Distilleries, Ltd., Carron Strathspey .. .. ..
Distillers Co., Ltd., The, Edinburgh ..

Docks (Floating) Caissons, &c.— PAGE
Cardiff Railway Co., The, Bute Docks, Cardiff; London Office, 32A, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W. .. .. .. Cover
Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Co., Wyre Dock, Fleetwood .. .. ..

Door Furniture—
Ballers, Limited, London, E.C. 6

Drilling Machines—
Northern Engineering Co., Ltd., King's Cross, near Halifax .. .. ..

Drills—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson Limited, Manchester .. .. ..

Dry Soap—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ..
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ..

Dye Merchants—
Edge, Wm., Sons, & Co., Bolton ..

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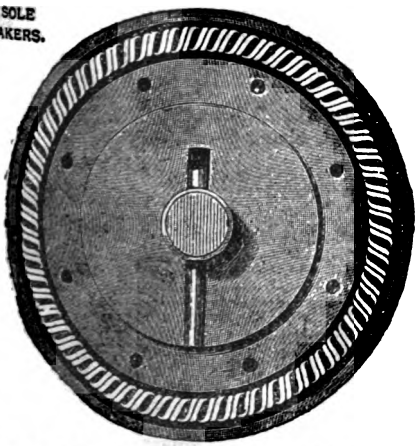

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Electrical Fittings (China)— PAGE

Bullers, Limited, London, E.C. .. 6

Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and Contractors—

Bullers, Limited, London, E.C... .. 6

Jaskell, A. E., & Co., Manchester ..

Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Limited, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. .. ..

Lewis, Joseph, 5-6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Electric Bells—

Wright, Archibald J., Ltd., 318, Upper Street, London, N. .. .. ..

Electric Light Fittings—

Bullers, Limited, London, E.C... .. 6

Electric Novelties—

Wright, Archibald J., Ltd., 318, Upper Street, London, N. .. .. ..

Electrical Screws (Iron, Steel or Brass)—

Acme Lathe Co., Ltd., The, Ardwick, Manchester .. ..

Emery and Corundum Wheel Manufacturers— PAGE

London Emery Works Co., 56B, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Lake & Spencer, Limited, Broadheath, near Manchester 20

Emery and Glass Cloth—

London Emery Works Co., 56B, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Emery and Glass Paper—

London Emery Works Co., 56B, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Emery Grindg. Machine Mkrs.—

London Emery Works Co., 56B, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Lake & Spencer, Limited, Broadheath, Manchester 20

Emery Manufacturers—

London Emery Works Co., 56B, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Lake & Spencer, Limited, Broadheath, Manchester (Emery Wheel and Corundum Wheel Manufacturers) 20

Enamel Colours—

Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen .. ..

Enamelled Fire Clay Sinks— PAGE

Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock .. 1

Encaustic Tiles—

Woolliscroft, G., & Sons, Limited, Hanley, Staffs. 1

Engine Cleaning Waste—

Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs. Manchester .. ..

Engineers—

Northern Engineering Co., Halifax ..

Engineers (Boilers)—

Riley, J. Ashton, Ltd., Manchester Road, Huddersfield .. .. ..

Engineers' Ironfounders—

Robertson & Orchar, Dundee (Machine Moulded Wheels).. .. .. ..

Whittingham & Porter, Hull .. ..

Wigan Coal and Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan..

Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorkshire .. ..

Engineers' Oil Cans—

Kaye, Joseph, & Sons, Ltd., Leeds ..

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Engineers' Stores— PAGE
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ld., London, S.E. ..

Engineers' Tool Makers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield .. ..
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ..

Engineers and Millwrights—
General—
Aveling & Porter, Rochester (Locomotives, Road Rollers, &c.) .. ..
Baird, W., & Co., Glasgow (Pig Iron, Coal, Coke, &c.) 14
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ..
Burrell, C., & Sons, Limited, Thetford (Locomotives, Steam Rollers, Traction Engines) .. ..
Chidlaw, Robert, Manchester .. ..
Day, Summers & Co., Ld., Southampton ..
Garrett, R., & Sons, Leiston, Suffolk ..
Grover & Co., Limited, London, N. ..
Howorth, J. & Co., Farnworth, Manchester .. ..
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (various forms of Engineers' Grinding and Polishing Machinery) .. 20
Marriott & Graham, Govan, Glasgow (Boiler Makers) .. ..
Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield ..
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ld., The, Reading and London .. .. ..
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee .. ..
Russell, G., & Co., Motherwell, N.B ..
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. .. ..
Spencer, Moulton & Co., Ltd., Bradford-on-Avon, Wilts .. ..
Whitley, William, & Sons, Lockwood, Huddersfield .. ..
Whittingham & Porter, Hull .. ..
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorkshire .. ..

Engine Packings—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ld., London, S.E. ..

Engine-cleaning Waste—
Jones W. C., Ltd., Manchester .. 4

Engine Roll Bars—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Sheffield ..

Essence Manufacturers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. .. ..
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading ..
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours & Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., The, London, N.E.
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. ..
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E.
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark-street, London, S.E. .. ..

Essences, &c.—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. .. ..
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark-street, London, S.E. .. ..

Essential Oils— PAGE
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. .. ..
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E.
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark-street, London, S.E. .. ..

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Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246 High Holborn 2

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Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. .. 6

Fancywood Merchants—
Gardiner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool .. ..

Fan Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester .. ..

Feeding Stuffs (for Cattle & Sheep)—
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B. ..

Felts (Paper Makers' Machine)
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury .. ..

Fencing (Steel and Iron)—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards Ltd., Norwich 16

File Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield .. ..

Filter Manufacturers—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London .. ..

Fire Bricks—
Calder Fireclay Co., The, Coatbridge ..
Craig, J. & M., Limited, Kilmarnock .. 19
King Bros., Stourbridge .. .. ..
Pearson, E. J. & J., Stourbridge ..
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham .. ..

Fire Clay—
King Bros., Stourbridge .. .. ..
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham .. ..

Fire Clay Goods—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Sinks) .. 19

Flag and Banner Manufactrs.—
Pigott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. ..

Flannel Manufacturers— PAGE
Kelsall & Kemp, Limited, Rochdale ..
Spinner & Co., Manchester .. ..

Flour Mill Engineers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ..

Flour Millers—
Appleby, Josh., & Sons, Ltd., Liverp'l ..
Vernon, W., & Sons, Liverpool .. ..

Forks—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ..

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Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., 28, Lime Street, E.C. .. ..

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Anglo-Italian Talc and Plumbago Mines Co., Ltd., 26, Old Hall Street, Liverpool 8

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Smity & shaw, London, E.C. .. ..

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Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge .. ..

Fustian (Piece Goods)—
Moss Bros. (Hebden Bridge), Ltd. ..

Galvanized Iron Manufctrs.—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham Cover

Galvanized Wire Netting—
Barnard, Bishop, & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich 16

Garden Adornments—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Garden Furniture—
Barnard, Bishop, & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich 16

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Gas Furnaces—
Cannington, Shaw & Co., St. Helens, Lancashire 1

Gas Governors—
Shaw, Joseph, Huddersfield .. ..

Gas-Tight Motors—
Hodson Wright & Wood, Halifax ..

Gates, Railings, and Hurdles—
Barnard, Bishop, & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich 16

Gauge Glasses—
Butterworth Bros., Newton Heath, Manchester .. ..
Tomey & Sons, Perth .. .. ..
Tomey, Joseph, & Sons, Messrs., Ltd., Manor Glass Works, Aston, Birmingham .. ..

Gauge Glass Protectors—
Tomey, Joseph, & Sons, Messrs., Ltd., Manor Glass Works, Aston, Birmingham .. ..

Gear Cutter—
Chidlaw, Robert, 43, City Road, Manchester.. .. ..

Gelatines—
The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan .. ..

General Export Merchants—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E. .. .. ..

Gin Distillers—
Distillers Co., Ltd., The, Edinburgh ..
Hills & Underwood, London, E.C. ..

Girders (Iron and Steel)—
Scott, Walter, Ltd., Leeds .. ..

Glass and Emery Paper—
London Emery Works Co., London, E.C.

Glass Bottles—
Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks .. ..
Cannington, Shaw, & Co., Limited, St. Helens 1

Glass Case Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Glass Manufacturers—
Robinson, J. B., 21, Moor Lane, E.C. ..
Stevens, James & Son, Birmingham .. 1

Glass Works—
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham .. 1

PAGE

Glazed Bricks—
Wooliscroft, G., & Sons, Limited Hanley, Staffs. 18

Glazed Fire Clay Sinks—
Craig, J. & M., Limited, Kilmarnock .. 19

Glaziers' Diamonds—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Glues—
The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan .. ..

Glycerine—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Limited, London, S.W. .. ..

Golf Balls—
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Boby, Robt., Ltd., Bury St. Edmunds..

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Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool..
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. .. ..

Grinding Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C...
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable .. ..

Grinding & Polishing Machry.—
London Emery Works Co., London, E.C.
Lyke and Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (Makers of various forms of) 20

Guano Manufacturers—
Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ..

Gummed Paper—
Jones, S., & Co., 56, Carter Lane, St. Paul's, E.C. .. ..

Hammers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield .. ..

Hams and Bacon—
Nickson, G. & J., & Co., Ltd., Liverpool

Hand Looms—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ..

PAGE

Hardwood Merchants—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool .. ..

Hat Manufacturers—
Christy & Co., London, E.C. .. ..

Heating & Ventilating Engineers—
Hartley & Sugden, Halifax (Boilers) ..
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ld., London, S.W...

Hose—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ..
Willcox, W.H., & Co., Ld., London, S.E...

Hollowware—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham Cover

Hop Commissioners—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. .. ..

Hose—
Willcox, W.H., & Co., Ld., London, S.E..

Hose-Pipe Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ..

Hosiery—
Walker, R. & Sons, Rutland Street, Leicester .. ..

Hosiery & Finishing Machnry.—
Berridge, I. L., & Co., Leicester (Sole Proprietors, Griswold Knitters) ..

Hosiery Yarns—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford .. ..

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Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester .. ..

Hydraulic Engineers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C.

Hydraulic Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ..

Hydraulic Tiles—
Wooliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley 18

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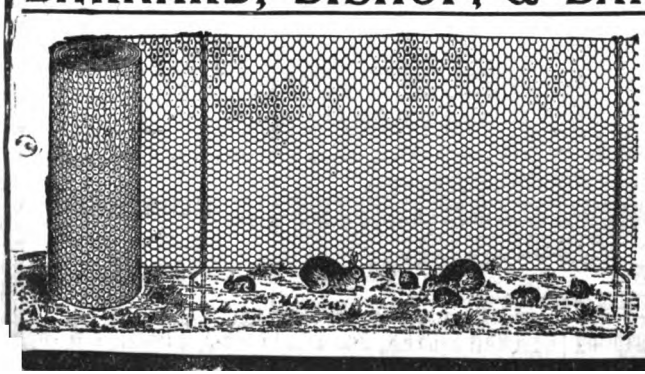

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Ice Machine Manufacturers— PAGE

Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London .. ..

Incandescent Lamps—

Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Limited, London, E.C. .. .. ..

Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. .. ..

India-rubber Goods—

Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C. .. ..

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Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C. .. ..

Harris, Joseph, Altrincham (Advertising Balloons, Squeakers, and Rubber Surgical Appliances) .. ..

India-Rubber, Gutta-Percha & Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C.

Injectors—

Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ld., London, S.E. ..

Ink Manufacturers—

Blackwell & Co., London, E.C. .. ..

Inkstands—

Darke, E., 14a, Gt. Marlborough Street, W. .. ..

Insecticides (Horticultural)—

Bush, W. J. & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. .. ..

Insulators—

Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C. 6

Iron Buildings—

Ash, J., & Son, Rea Street, South Birmingham .. .. Cover

Humphreys, Ltd., Knightsbridge, London, S.W. .. ..

Iron Plate Workers—

Ash, J., & Son, Rea Street, South Birmingham .. .. .. Cover

Iron Safes—

Ratner Safe Co., Ltd., Hancock Road, Bow, E. 2

Ironfounders—

Roberts, J. & S., Ltd., West Bromwich ..

Robertson & Orchar, Dundee .. ..

Saxby & Farmer, Canterbury Road London N.W. .. ..

Whittingham & Porter, Hull .. ..

Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks... .. ..

Ironmasters— PAGE

Baird, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Gartsherrie, N.B. 16

Parkgate Iron and Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham .. .. Cover

Whiteley & Sons, Ltd., Huddersfield .. 18

Ironstone Adamant Tiles—

Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Limited, Hanley, Staffs. 18

Jute Weaving Machinery—

Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ..

Knitting Machine Builders—

Stibbe, G., & Co., Leicester .. ..

Harrison Patent Knitting Machine Co., Ltd., 217, Upper Brook Street, Manchester 2

Lacquer Manufacturers—

Flack, Henry, London, S.E. .. ..

Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E. ..

Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ..

Lamp Manufacturers—

Bladon, T. E., 99 and 100, Northwood Street, Birmingham; London address, 4, Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, E.C. ..

Lathes (Turning, Polishing, &c.)—

Fabbricotti, B., London, S.W. 22

Northern Engineering Co., Ltd., King's Cross, near Halifax .. .. ..

Launch Engines—

Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Patricroft, Manchester .. ..

Launch Oil Engines—

The Seal Motor Co., Hammersmith, London .. ..

Lead Glazing—

Grover & Co., Limited, London, N. ..

Lead Manufacturers—

Hall, W., Winstanley Road, Battersea, S.W. .. ..

Leather Belting (Link)—

Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ld., London, S.E. ..

Leather Reviver—

Flack, Henry, London, S.E. .. ..

Leggings and Gaiters—

Wallace, Bailey & Wilkins, Bermondsey, London, S.E. .. .. ..

Lens Manufacturers for Ships and Railway Lamps—

Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham.. 1

Letter Cutters— PAGE

Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield 2

Lifts—

Clark, Bunnett, & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. .. ..

Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ..

Lightning Conductor Manufacturer and Erector—

Lewis, Joseph, 5 & 6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. .. .. ..

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Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. ..

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Hillabys', Limited, Pontefract .. ..

Lithographic Varnish—

Coates Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ..

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Burrell, C., & Sons, Ltd., Thetford ..

Garrett, R., & Sons, Leiston, Suffolk ..

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Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Robinson, J. B., 31, Moor Lane, E.C. ..

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Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ..

Robertson & Orchar, Dundee .. ..

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Bremner, J. A., & Co., Manchester ..

Fleming, A. B., & Co., Edinburgh ..

Nobel Bros., Petersburg .. .. ..

Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ..

Price's Patent Candle Co., Limited, London, S.W. .. ..

Lubricating Oils—

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Nobel Bros., Petersburg .. .. ..

Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ld., London, S.E. ..

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Machine Makers—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee .. ..

Machine Screws, Bolts, Nuts, &c.—
Acme Lathe Co., Ltd., The, Ardwick, Manchester .. ..

Magnesia—
Henry, T. & W., East Street, St. Peter's, Manchester .. ..

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Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E. .. .. ..

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Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ..
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith ..
Hedworth BarnumCo.,Ld.,Newcastle .
Thomson, Wm., & Sons, Ltd., Clovenfords by Galashiels (for Vines & Plants)
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ..

Marble and Granite Merchant and Importer—
Fabbricotti, B., Pimlico, Lond., S.W... 22

Marble Manufacturers of all Descriptions—
Fabbricotti, B., Pimlico, Lond., S.W... 22

Mattresses (Woven Wire)—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Hay Mill, Birmingham .. ..
Lane, George, & Sons, Brueton Street, Birmingham .. ..

Medical Plasters—
De St. Balmas A., & Co., Leicester ..

Metal Merchants and Manfrs.—
Billington & Newton, Longport, Staffs... 4
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. .. 18
Dugard Bros., Birmingham 17
King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham 15

Metal Polish—
Baumgartner, J. F., & Co., London, W...

Military and Naval Ornaments—
Narborough, F., 40, 42, 44, Lombard street, Birmingham .. ..
Wilkins, T. B., 52, Clement Street, Birmingham .. ..

PAGE

Mine Owners—
Wigan Coal & Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan (Producers of Best House, Gas and Steam Coals, and Wigan Cannel) 3

Mineral Waters—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. ..

Mining Lamps (all classes)—
Cooke, Joseph, & Son, (Belmont Passage), 263, Lawley Street, Birmingham 2

Mortar and Pestle Mfrs.—
Bullers, Limited, London, E.C... .. 6

Mortice Furniture—
Bullers, Limited, London, E.C... ... 6

Mosaic and Tiles Decoration—
Geary, Walker, & Co., 11, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C. .. .. ..
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs. 18

Motors (Gas Tight)—
Hodgson Wright & Wood, Halifax ..

Mushroom Ketchup—
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading..

Musical Instrument Manfrs.—
Lechenal & Co., London, W.C. .. ..

Mustard Seed—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. .. ..

Nails—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 24

Name Plate Makers—
Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield 2

Newspapers—
Colliery Guardian, 49, Essex Street, Strand, W.C. 11

Night Lights—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Limited, London, S.W. .. ..

Oar Manufacturers—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool .. ..

Office Fittings—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

PAGE

Oilcake (Linseed and Cotton)—
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B ..

Oil Cans—
Bladon, T. E., 99 & 100, Northwood Street, Birmingham; London address, 4, Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, E.C. ..
Kaye, Joseph, & Sons, Ltd., Leeds ..

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Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Manchester
The Seal Motor Co., Hammersmith, London .. ..

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Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ..

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Bremner, Jno. A., & Co., Manchester..
Fleming, A. B., & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh ..
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Price's Patent Candle Co., Limited, London, S.W. .. .. ..
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C. .. ..
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. .. ..

Opal Tiling—
The Permanent Decorative Glass Co., Ltd., Lancaster .. ..

Ore Crushing Machines—
Baxter, W. H., Leek .. .. ..

Ovens—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C ..

Oxfords Manufacturers—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow

Oxides—
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ..

Oxygen, Cylinder Valves for—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow .. ..

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Hoyle, Robson, Barnett & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne .. .. ..
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Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton
Robinson, E., & Co., Ltd., City Works, Sheffield .. ..
Sperelmey & Co., London, S.E. .. ..
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. .. ..

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Paper Makers— PAGE

Smith & McLaurin, Messrs., Ltd., Milliken Park, Scotland (Coated and Gummed Papers) .. .. ..
Tullis, R., & Co., Markinch, Fife ..

Paper Makers and Stationers (Wholesale and Export)—

Annandale, John, & Sons, Ltd., Shotley Grove, Durham .. ..
Dickinson, J., & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.
Ford, T. B., Loudwater, High Wycombe (Blottings) .. ..
Hodgkinson, W. S., & Co., Wells Somerset .. ..
Hollingworth & Co., Maidstone ..
Olive & Partington, Manchester ..

Paper Makers' Steel & Bronze Tools—

Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argo Works, Sheffield .. ..

Paper Makers' Tools—

Crookes, Roberts, & Co., Sheffield ..

Parquet Flooring—

Geary, Walker & Co., London, E.C. ..

Patent Fuel Machinery—

Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ..

Pavement Light Lenses—

Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Birmingham 1

Paving Bricks—

Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Limited Hanley, Staffs. 18

Pen Manufacturers—

Gillott, J., & Sons, Birmingham ..

Perfumers—

Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. .. ..

Perfumery Materials—

Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. .. ..
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark-street, London, S.E. .. ..

Phosphor Bronze—

Billington & Newton, Longport, Staffs... 4

Photographic Process—

Phototype Co., The, London, W.C. ..

Pianos, Organs, and Small Instruments— PAGE

Riley's on Constitution Hill, Birmingham .. ..

Pickles—

Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading..

Picks—

Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham

Pins (Toilet)—

Edridge, Merrett & Co., Ltd., Legge Street, Birmingham .. .. ..

Pistons—

Buckley, W., & Co., Millsands, Sheffield 18

Plate and Bar Manufacturers—

Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby.. ..

Plate Glass Manufacturers—

Robinson, J. B., London, E.C. .. ..

Plumbago—

Anglo-Italian Talc and Plumbago Mines Co., Ltd., 26, Old Hall Street, Liverpool 8

Poles, Telegraph—

Bullers, Limited, London, E.C. .. 6

Porcelain Paint—

Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. .. ..

Portable Buildings—

Humphreys, Ltd., Knightsbridge, London, S.W. .. ..

Portable Iron and Wood Buildings—

Iles, Robert, Ltd., Walham Green, London, S.W. .. ..

Portland Cement—

Peters Bros., 34, Victoria Street, S.W. 4
West Kent Portland Cement Co., Burham, Rochester, Kent .. Cover

Preservative for Stone, &c.—

Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. ..

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Sheppard & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ..
Smily & Shaw, London, E.C. .. ..

Printing Ink Manufacturers—

Blackwell & Co., London, E.C. ..
Coates Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ..

Proprietary Articles, Specialities, &c.— PAGE

Baumgartner, J. F., & Co., London, W. ("La Brillantine" Metallic Powder) .. ..
Delmas, A. de St., & Co., Leicester (Medical Plasters) .. .. ..
Henry's Calcined Magnesia (T. & W. Henry), Manchester .. .. ..
Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Co., Lincoln (Clarke's Blood Mixture) .. ..
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Gunson, Geo., Sons & Co., 2, Atherton Street, Liverpool .. ..

Pulley Blocks—

Godfrey, J. T., Loughborough .. ..

Pulleys—

Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks .. ..

Pumping Engines—

Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London .. ..
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ld., London, S.W...

Pumps—

Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London .. ..
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ld., London, S.E...

Quarry Owners—

Freeman, J., Son & Co., London, W...
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Limited, Hanley, Staffs 15

Quilts, Covers, Toilletings, &c.—

Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson Limited, Manchester .. .. ..

Quiltings and Piques—

Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Limited, Manchester .. .. ..

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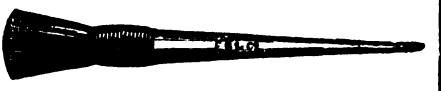

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Railway Appliances—
Saxby & Farmer, Limited, Canterbury Road, London, N.W. (Railway Signals, &c.) .. ..

Railway Brass Foundry—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Heath Mill Lane, Birmingham .. .. ..

Railway Lamp Lenses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham 1

Railway Signals—
Saxby & Farmer, Ld., London, N.W...

Rain Water Separator—
Rogers, H. J. Shottermill, Haslemere..

Reducing Valves for Compressed Gases—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow .. ..

Refrigerators—
Haslam Foundry and Engineering Co., Limited, The, Derby .. .. ..
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London .. ..

Retorts—
Stevens, J., & Son, Birmingham .. 1

Rings and Springs—
Buckley, Wm., & Co., Millsands, Sheffield 13

Rivet, Belt, and Nut Manfrs.—
Gadd, Thos., Rowley Regis, Dudley ..
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 24
Perram, H. W., Birmingham .. ..
Priest, B., & Sons, Oldhill, Staffs. ..

Roof Glazing—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N... ..

Roofing (Patent)—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N... ..

Roofing Tile Machinery—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs... 18

Roofing Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs 18

Rope Manufacturers—
Piggott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. ..

PAGE

Rubber Tyres—
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N.

Sacks and Bags—
Judge, T. & W., London, E.C. (Cotton ..
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool .. ..

Saddlery, Harness, &c., Mfrs.—
Rawle & Son, 231 and 233, Blackfriars Road, London, S.E. .. .. ..

Safe Manufacturers—
Hobbs, Hart, & Co., Ltd., London, N. Cover
Ratner & Co., 51, Moorgate Street, E.C. 2

Safety Fuse Manufacturers—
Nobel's Explosive Co., Ltd., Glasgow.. 10

Salt—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ..

Salvage and Dismantling Contractors—
Adams, John, & Sons, Broad Chare, Newcastle-on-Tyne 2

Sanitary Appliances—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Drain Pipes and Traps, Sanitary Earthenware, W.C. Basins, Urinals, and Washdown Closets, Enamelled Slabs).. 19

Sanitary Paints—
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton

Sanitary Potters—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock .. 19

Sauce Manufacturers—
Cocks, Chas., & Co., Ltd., Reading ..

Saw Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield .. ..

Scrap Iron—
Adams, John, & Sons, Broad Chare, Newcastle-on-Tyne 2

Screw Hooks, Screw Eyes—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 24

Screwing Tackle—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ..

Screws and Spindles—
Dodd, Joseph, & Co., Chester Works, Aston, Birmingham .. .. ..

PAGE

Screws, Washers, Nails, &c.—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 24
Perram, H. W., Birmingham .. ..

Seals—
Pryor, E. & Son, Sheffield 2

Seed Merchants—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. .. ..

Seeds—
Cooper, Taber & Co., Ltd., London ..

Separators, (Electro Magnetis)—
Gaskell, A. E., & Co., Manchester ..

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Hamlyn Bros., Ld., Buckfastleigh, Devon
Spinner & Co., Manchester .. ..

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Robertson & Orchar, Dundee .. ..

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Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks. .. ..

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Cooper, Wm., & Nephews, 142, Illinois Street, Chicago, and Berkhamsted, England .. ..

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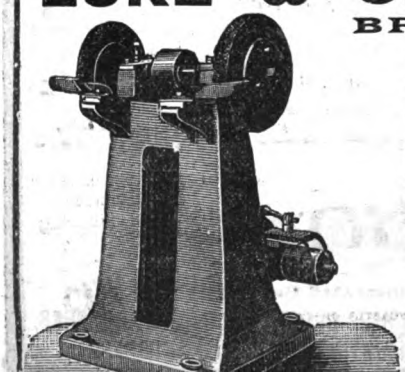

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Ships' Lamp Lenses— PAGE

Brown, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham 1

Shirtings—

Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow

Shoe Rivets—

Bridge, Merrett & Co., Ltd., Legge Street, Birmingham .. .. ..

Shop Fittings—

Dove & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2
Harris & Sheldon, Ltd., Stafford Street, Birmingham .. ..

Shot (Hard and Soft)—

The Abbey Improved Chilled Shot Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne 2

Shovels—

Thornton, George, & Co., Birmingham

Shuttle Block Manufacturers—

Gadsby, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool .. ..

Silk Weaving Machinery—

Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ..

Silks—

Craig, J.&M., Ltd., Kilmarnock, N.B. .. 19

Slate Merchants and Manufrs.—

Beetons Bros., Portmadoc, N. Wales ..
Williams, Richard, & Co., Portmadoc..

Slipper Manufacturers—

Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge.. ..

Slipway Machinery—

Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton..

Soap Manufacturers—

Cussins & Tennant, Ltd., Aberdeen ..
Price's Patent Candle Co., Limited, London, S.W. .. ..
Rennie, Charles, & Co., Glasgow ..
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Hamlehurst Soap Works, Runcorn .. .. ..
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester (Hard and Soft Soaps) .. .. ..

Soap Powders—

Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ..

Soap Stone—

Anglo-Italian Tale and Plumbago Mines Co., Ltd., 28, Old Hall Street, Liverpool 8

Soda—

Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire .. ..
United Alkali Co., Ltd Liverpool ..

Spades— PAGE

Thornton, George, & Co., Birmingham

Sponge Cloths, &c.—

Jones William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester 4

Stamp and Punch Makers—

Pryor, Edward, & Son, Sheffield .. 2

Stationers (Manufacturing and Export)—

Dickinson, John, & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. .. ..

Stay Busk Manufacturers—

Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield .. ..

Steam Boilers—

Hartley & Sugden, Halifax .. ..

Steam Gauge—

Hodson Wright & Wood, Halifax ..

Steam Pulsating Pumps—

Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd. The, Reading and London .. ..

Steam Saw Mills—

Fabbricotti, B., London, S.W. .. 22

Steam Traps—

Whiteley, W., & Sons, Limited, Lockwood, Huddersfield .. ..

Steam Valves—

Shaw, J., Albert Works, Huddersfield 23

Steel Castings, Steel and Iron Forgings, &c.—

Baird, W., & Co., Glasgow 14
Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby.. ..
Fairley, J., & Sons, Birmingham .. 3
Lanarkshire Steel Co., The, Motherwell, N.B. .. .. Cover
Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow.. 12

Steel and Iron Shafting, &c.—

Robertson & Orchar, Dundee .. ..
Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow .. 12

Steel Manufacturers— PAGE

Brown, Bayley's Steel Works, Limited. Sheffield .. .. Cover
Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby.. ..
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield .. ..
Fairley, J., & Sons, Birmingham .. 3
Lanarkshire Steel Co., The, Motherwell, N.B. 14
Parkgate Iron and Steel Co., Ltd., Motherham .. .. Cover
Power, F.A., & Sons, Saltley, Birmghm.
Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow.. 12

Steel Pen Makers—

Gillott, J., & Sons, London & Birmnghm

Steel Ropes—

Cradock, G., & Co., Wakefield .. ..

Steel Tubes—

Russell, J., & Sons, Ltd. Wednesbury

Stencil Plates—

Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield 2

Stone Breakers—

Baxter, W. H., Ltd., Leeds .. ..

Stone, Solution for Preservation of—

Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. .. ..

Stoves—

Barnard, Bishop, & Barnards, Limited, Norwich 16

Strong Rooms—

Hobbs, Hart & Co., Ltd., London, N. Cover

Sugar Refiners—

Tate, Henry, & Sons, Ltd., London and Liverpool .. ..

Sulphate of Copper—

United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ..

Sulphate of Soda Manufacturers—

Blythe, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs. .. ..
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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Sulphuric Acid Manufacturers' Retorts—
Stevens, J., & Sons, Birmingham .. 1

Surgical India Rubber Mfrs.—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co. London, E.C. .. ..

Surgical Instrument Mfctr.—
Harris, Joseph, Altrincham (Rubber Goods) .. ..

Syphons and Seltzogenes—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. ..

Tailors' Trimming Warehousemen—
Joseph, M., & Co., 26, Aldgate High Street, London, E. .. .. ..

Tallow—
Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool..

Tanks—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham Cover

Tar and Rosin Distillers—
Brotherton & Co., Leeds .. .. ..
Robinson, E., & Co., Ltd., City Works, Sheffield .. ..

Tarpaulin Manufacturers—
Piggott Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ..

Tea Merchants—
Tower Tea Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ..

Teak Timber—
Denny, Mott & Dickson, Ltd., 165, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C. ..

Telegraph Engineers—
Bullers, Limited, London, E.C. .. 6
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Limited, London, E.C. .. .. ..
Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. .. ..
Telegraph Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Helsby, Warrington .. .. ..

Telephones—
Telegraph Manufacturing Company, Ltd., Helsby, Warrington .. ..

PAGE

Tents, Marquees and Camp Furniture—
Piggott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. ..

Textile Engineers & Machinists—
Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury..

Textile Machinery Manufrs.—
Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury, Ld., Bury..

Textile Manufacturers—
Hamlyn Bros., Buckfastleigh, Devon ..
Joseph, M., & Co., 26, Aldgate High Street, London, E. .. ..
Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale ..
Spinner, E., & Co., Manchester .. ..

Tiles, Tessellated and Glazed—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley .. 19

Timber Merchants—
Denny, Mott & Dickson, Ltd., 165, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C. ..
Gradwell, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness, Lancs. .. .. ..

Timber Merchants & Imprtrs.—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Liverpool ..
Gradwell, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness, Lancs. .. .. ..

Tin Boxes & Canisters—
Tinplate Decorating Co., Ltd., The, Neath.. 6

Tobacco Flavour Manufacturers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. .. .. ..
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E.

Tool Manufacturers—
Lake & Spencer, Limited, Broadheath, Manchester 20
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ..

Towels—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Limited, Manchester .. .. ..

PAGE

Traction Engines—
Aveling & Porter, Ltd., Rochester ..

Tube Mill Machinery—
Jones, George, Ltd., Birmingham ..

Tubes and Fittings—
Dugard Bros., Birmingham .. ..
Russell, J., & Sons, Ltd., Wednesbury
Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Birmingham

Tweeds—
Joseph, M., & Co., 26, Aldgate High Street, London, E. .. .. ..
Platt, Jas., & Co., 77, St. Martin's Lane, W.C.. .. ..

Twines—
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool .. ..

Typewriter—
Yost Typewriter Co., Ltd., The, London, E.C. .. ..

Tyre Manufacturers—
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, E.

Valves for Compressed Gases—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow .. ..

Varnish Manufacturers—
Blackwell & Co., Dyer's Buildings, E.C. .. ..
Flack, Henry, London, S.E. .. ..
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E.
Palmer, W. H., & Co., 82, Old Street, E.C. .. ..
Parker & Lester, London, S.E. (Parker's Imperial Black) .. ..
Robinson, E., & Co., Ltd., City Works, Sheffield .. ..
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E... .. .. ..

Vegetable Colours—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. .. .. ..
Confectioners' Vegetable Colour and Fruit Essences Co., Limited, The, London, N.E. .. .. ..
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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Ventilators— PAGE

Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Bolton .. ..

Vinegar Makers—

Grimble & Co., Ltd., Cumberland Market, N.W. 23

Hills & Underwood, London, E.C. ..

Wagon Cover Manufacturers—

Piggott, Bros., & Co., London, E.C. ..

Waiter and Tray Manufacturers—

Frank Hawker Carpathian Silver Co., Ltd., 84, Spencer Street, Birmingham

Washers—

Parkam, Herbert W., Ltd., Floodgate Street Works, Birmingham .. ..

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Simpson, J., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ..

Waterproof Manufacturers—

Harberg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C. .. ..

Piggott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. ..

Waterproof Paint Manufacturers—

Sarabiney & Co., London, S.E. .. ..

Water Softeners—

Paisemster Engineering Co., Ltd. The, Reading .. ..

Water Taps—

Palatine Engineering Co., Limited, Liverpool .. ..

Weaving Machinery—

Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ..

Whitaley, Wm., & Sons, Lockwood, Huddersfield ..

Wheels— PAGE

Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N.

Whip and Walking Stick Makers—

Narborough, F., 46 & 44, Lombard Street, Birmingham .. .. ..

White Lead Manufacturers—

Mersey White Lead Co., Limited, Warrington .. ..

Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. .. ..

Wine and Spirit Merchants—

Chaplin, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, W.C. .. ..

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Distillers Co., Ltd. (The Edinburgh "D C L" Whisky and Gin) .. ..

Hills & Underwood, London, E.C. ..

Morgan & Co., Hamburg .. .. ..

Wire Manufacturers—

Cradock, G., & Co., Wakefield .. Cover

Dugard Bros., Birmingham (Brass and Copper) 17

Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham (Wire Nails, Rods, Bars, Hoops, &c.) 24

Power, F. A., & Son, Saltley, Birmingham .. ..

Shipman, J., & Co., Atterclifft, Sheffield

Wire Rope Manufacturers—

Cradock, G., & Co., Wakefield .. Cover

Lewis, Joseph, 5 and 6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. .. ..

Wireworkers and Weavers—

Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Limited, Norwich 16

Power, F. A., & Son, Saltley, Birm'gham

Wood Block Flooring—

Geary, Walker, & Co., London, E.C. ..

Wood Stains— PAGE

Flack, Henry, London, S.E. .. ..

Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E.

Wolsey Unshrinkable Wool-Underwear—

Walker, R., & Sons, Rutland Street, Leicester .. ..

Wool Importers—

Hall, John, & Sons, Liverpool 17

Wool, Tops, Noils, Wastes, &c.—

Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford .. ..

Woollen, Cotton, and Linen Cloths for Machinery—

Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury .. ..

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THE Board of Trade Journal

(With which is incorporated the "Imperial Institute Journal.")

Edited by the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

JANUARY 26, 1905.

	PAGE
Openings for British Trade	147
Notice to Claimants against the Estate of Mr. Miller (Guatemala)	156
Trade of Cape Colony	157
Report on the Shan States in 1903–4	158
British and German Coal at Hamburg in 1904	160
Foreign Trade of Russia	161
Liquorice Root Trade in Mesopotamia	162
Proposed Tariff Changes (*to be continued*)	164
Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations	169
Shipping and Transport	175
Minerals, Metals, and Machinery	176
Yarns and Textiles	177
Agriculture	179
Miscellaneous	180
Statistical Tables	185
Government Publications (Board of Trade,* Foreign Office, Colonial Office, &c.)	187

For list of contents in detail see p. ix. *of Advertisements.*

* *For list of principal publications of Board of Trade see p.* vii. *of Advertisements.*

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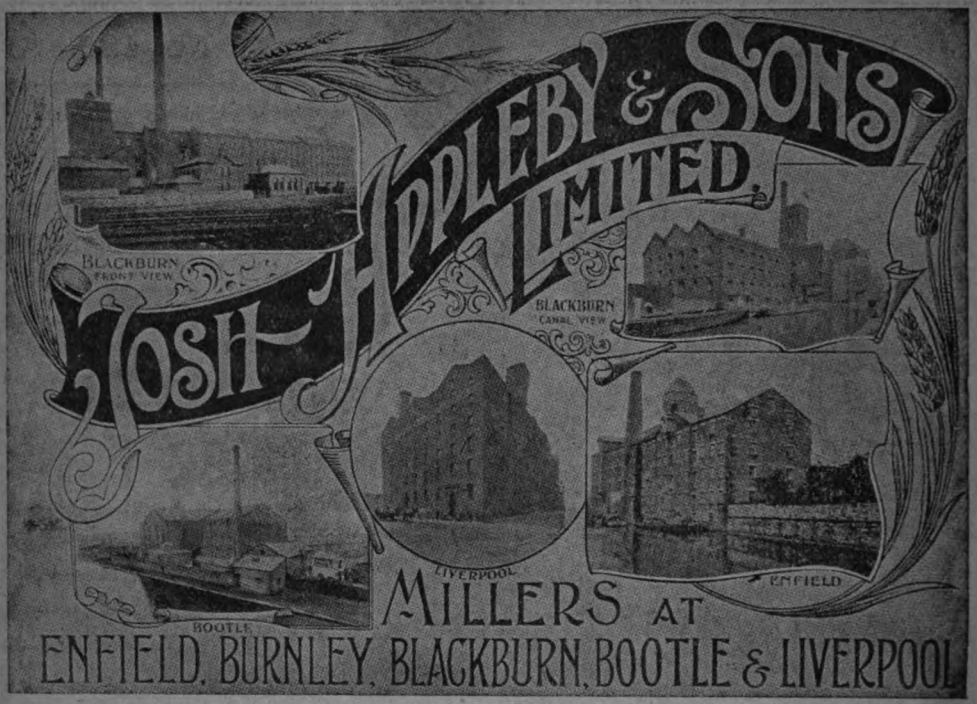

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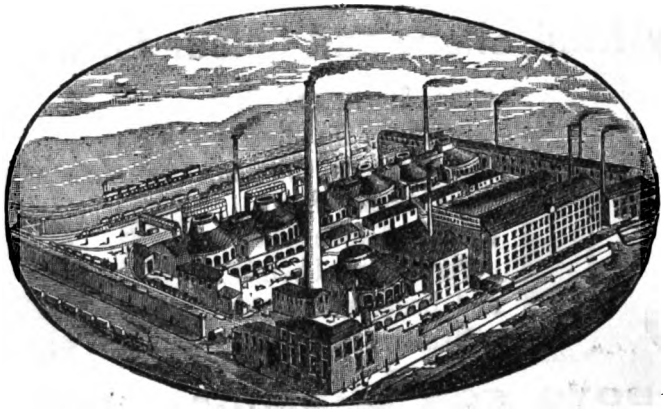

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Memorandum on the comparative Statistics of Population, Industry and Commerce of the United Kingdom and some leading Foreign Countries. [Cd. 1199/1902.] Price 5½*d.*

Preferential Trade Return, showing the advantages granted to other countries in States where British trade does not enjoy most-favoured-nation treatment. [329/1903.] Price 1½*d*

Report to the Board of Trade by the Advisory Committee on Commercial Intelligence, with reference to their Proceedings. [Cd. 2,044/04] Price 4½*d.*

Tea and Coffee.—Statement showing the Imports of Tea and Coffee into the principal Countries of Europe, the United States, and British Colonies. [363/1902.] Price 6*d.*

Trade and Shipping of Africa, with Maps and Statistical Tables. [C. 9223/99.] Price 1*s.* 6*d.*

Trade and Shipping of South-East Asia, with Map and Statistical Tables [Cd. 324/01] Price 1*s.* 0½*d.*

Trade between the United Kingdom, Canada and Germany. Return. [328/1903.] Price 4*d.*

Trade of the United Kingdom with Germany. [131.] Price 1½*d.*

Trade of British Colonies with Foreign Countries. [110/1904.] Price 2*d.*

Trade (Colonies and United Kingdom). Return. [262/03.] Price 2*d.*

Trade of British Possessions. Statement during the Year 1901. [Cd. 1638/03.] Price 1*d.*

Unemployed in Foreign Countries. Report. [Cd. 2304.] Price 1*s.*

Wholesale and Retail Prices in the United Kingdom in 1902, with comparative Statistical [illegible] series of years. [291/1903.] Price 2*s.* 1*d.*

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Board of Trade Journal.

JANUARY 26TH, 1905.

CONTENTS.

PAGE

Openings for British Trade 147

British Colonies, &c.:—

Canada.—Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

Australian Commonwealth.—Opening for Dining-room Tables and Chairs, Incubators and Brooders, Heating Apparatus.

Cape Colony.—New Water Supply Scheme

Natal.—Opening for Electric Tramway and Power Plant.

Transvaal.—Tender Board Regulations of the Central South African Railways.

British West Indies.—Opening for Boots and Shoes.

Foreign Countries:—

Openings for Trade in Sweden, Denmark, Belgium, Spain, Italy, Servia, Roumania, Mexico, Chile, Brazil, Argentina and Japan.

Forthcoming Exhibition:—Paris.

Notice to Claimants against the Estate of Mr. Miller (Guatemala) ... 156

Trade of Cape Colony 157

Report on the Shan States in 1903-4 158

British and German Coal at Hamburg in 1904 160

Foreign Trade of Russia 161

Liquorice Root Trade in Mesopotamia 162

Proposed Tariff Changes 164

Philippine Islands (*to be continued*).

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations 169

British India. Natal. Spain. Turkey.

Shipping and Transport 175

Carriage of Cotton by the Orenburg-Tashkend Railway.

Minerals, Metals, and Machinery 176

Bounty on Gold Production in Natal. Proposed Roofing Iron-plate Syndicate in Russia.

Yarns and Textiles 177

Tariff Valuations for Excise Duty on Cotton Goods produced in British Indian Mills. "Abaca" (Manila hemp) Industry in the Philippines.

Agriculture... 179

Experiments in Rice-growing in British Guiana. Sericulture in France in 1904.

Miscellaneous 180

Forthcoming Meeting of the Association of Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom. Trade of British Guiana in 1903-4. Sale of Timber in Archangel and Vologda. Trade of France in 1904. Trade of Portugal in 1903. New Monetary Law of Mexico—Erratum. Trade of Uruguay. State Monopoly of Matches, Tobacco and Cigarette Paper in Ecuador.

Statistical Tables... 185

Cotton Returns.

Corn Prices.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

Government Publications 187

Board of Trade Returns and Labour Gazette. Notes of Foreign and Colonial Office Reports, also of certain other Government Publications having a bearing upon trade issued during the week. List of Foreign Office Reports arranged geographically, also a list of Colonial Office Reports issued since the beginning

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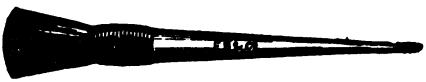

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THE

Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. XLVIII.] January 26, 1905. [No. 426

In a notice on p. 194 will be found a statement of the objects and work of the **Commercial Intelligence Branch** of the Board of Trade.

The Branch has been moved from 50, Parliament Street to 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

"Advantage, London" is the registered telegraphic address of the Branch.

The Temporary Enquiry Office, hitherto at 49, Eastcheap, E.C., has also been moved to 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

The following special trade enquiry offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.	Queensland.
Dominion of Canada.	Cape of Good Hope.

(See "Board of Trade Journal," 15th December, pp. 488-9, or 22nd December, p. 541.)

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

CANADA.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following trade enquiries have been received at the Canadian Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—A firm manufacturing wicker furniture, mail carts, perambulators, &c., desire addresses of the principal Canadian dealers in these goods.

The manufacturers of the best qualities of railway and crane chains wish to do business in Canada.

A manufacturing company wish to be placed in communication with Canadian firms who can supply orme wood cut to dimensions for furniture making; also with Canadian shippers of birch boards cut to dimensions.

Canadian Enquiries.—Application has been received from Canada for the address of United Kingdom manufacturers of lead traps.

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Openings for British Trade.

A manufacturer of cooperage stock, dove-tailed boxes, broom handles, and woodenware would be pleased to hear from United Kingdom manufacturers.

A firm in Toronto possessing a good connection are prepared to act for United Kingdom manufacturers of druggist and toilet specialities and surgical goods who may wish to develop trade in Canada.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

Dining-room Tables and Chairs.

In a recent report by the Canadian Commercial Agent at Melbourne (Mr. D. H. Ross), it is stated that there is a large import business done in dining-room tables, the bulk of the supplies being of United States manufacture. In packing, the tables are "knocked down," the legs and tops being in separate cases. In some instances two 6-feet tables are packed complete in one case measuring about 16½ cubic feet. The demand is good, both for better class goods and for those made of imitation or stained woods.

Dining-room chairs to match tables are required, and especially is this the case in the better qualities. The prices of the ordinary and carver chairs should be quoted for each article. The Austrian bent wood chairs, with cane seats, are now rather unpopular for dining-rooms, the demand being for something superior. There is, therefore, a distinct demand for dining-room chairs, quite independent of tables. Mr. Ross states that he has been asked for illustrations and price-lists for finished chairs "knocked down" for export, and also for prices of the frames unfinished "in white."

Incubators and Brooders.

Mr. Ross also points out that the export of dressed poultry from Victoria, under Government supervision, is proving a remunerative business, hence there is an increased demand for incubators and brooders. While a few incubators are made locally, the imported article commands the greater portion of the trade.

Heating Apparatus.

The Canadian Commercial Agent at Sydney (Mr. J. S. Larke) writes as follows under recent date:—

"A city architect is in correspondence with Canadian firms relative to securing heating apparatus for one of the largest office buildings in this city. This indicates an opening for an enterprising Canadian firm, and one to which I have more than once called attention. Outside of the

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city there is greater need of economical heating, particularly of schools and other public buildings, than within the city. It would require some time and capital to ensure success . . . . but there can be small doubt that it could be made profitable."

CAPE COLONY.

New Water Supply Scheme.

The "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" of 30th December notifies the intention of the Town Council of Somerset East to proceed with the raising of a loan of 10,000*l.* for the purpose of carrying out the new water scheme passed by public meeting.

NATAL.

Electric Tramway and Power Plant.

The "Natal Government Gazette" of 13th December contains notices of applications for leave to introduce Bills into the Legislative Assembly of Natal to authorise the construction and working of tramways either by electricity or other power: (1) From a connection on the south bank of the river Umgeni with the Durban Corporation tramways to Prospect Hall; (2) From a point at or near Hillary's Station to the boundary of the Bellair Estate; and also to contract for the supply of electric light or electric power to the residents in the districts to be served by the said tramways.

The "Gazette" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

TRANSVAAL.

Tender Board Regulations of the Central South African Railways.

The "Transvaal Government Gazette" of 30th December publishes the text of the regulations for the Tender Board of the Central South African Railways, to which all calls for tenders issued by the Board are subject.

The "Gazette" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

BRITISH WEST INDIES.

Boots and Shoes.

A circular letter has been addressed by the Superintendent of Commercial Agencies to the Canadian Commercial Agents in the British West Indies, asking for information as to the trade in boots and shoes in those Islands. The following particulars are extracted from the replies received:—

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Openings for British Trade.

The Commercial Agent in **Jamaica** (Mr. G. E. Burke) reports that the class and style of goods most in demand are ladies' glacé bar shoes, both low and high heels, of various grades; ladies' court shoes; ladies' mock kid and tan Oxfords; ladies' button, lace, and elastic side boots; girls' glacé lace and button boots; men's black and tan lace, button, and elastic side boots and shoes; men's Oxfords (black, patent, and tan); men's court shoes; men's white canvas and buckskin boots and shoes; boys' and youths' satin and box calf boots and shoes, also in canvas. Some demand also exists for rubber soles, as also for slippers of every description for ladies and gentlemen.

The better and middle grade should be placed in separate cardboard boxes, then packed in convenient sized cases, paper-lined. The wrapping, in all grades, should be of an attractive nature. Invoices must always disclose the exact contents of each case.

The lowest grades, on which the closest retail profits are made, find the best sale. Appearance would seem to be everything, the question of durability taking second place with this particular class of trade.

The Commercial Agent for **St. Kitts, Nevis and Virgin Islands** (Mr. S. L. Horsford) reports that, as regards class, style and grade what is wanted in those islands is a medium priced boot, suitable for the middle and labouring classes, ranging in value from the cheapest to, say, two dollars per pair. For ladies, what are known as Oxfords, polish and buttoned, and for gentlemen, Balmoral and Oxfords, in Dongola leather, are the kinds mostly in demand. There is also some enquiry for children's boots and shoes, and for slippers of various makes. Each pair should be packed in a separate cardboard carton, and these in wooden cases or trunks.

Mr. R. Bryson, Commercial Agent for **Antigua, Montserrat** and **Dominica,** reports that the United States are wresting the boot and shoe trade from England by the superior finish of their goods. Buyers are guided much more by the eye than anything else, and while the English boot may (and probably does) wear longer, the more attractive appearance of the American article gives it the preference.

The bulk of the trade in his Agency is in the cheapest classes of black leather boots and shoes, both men's and ladies', invoiced at about 90 cents first cost. There is also a sale for slightly superior goods at from 1 dol. to 1·50 dols., while there is also a small trade in superior tan leather men's boots and ladies' shoes.

Ordinary packing cases containing about three dozen pairs are the most suitable form of packing. Each pair should, of course, be in a carton. Both cartons and cases should be *free.*

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Openings for British Trade.

SWEDEN.

Oils, Cotton Waste, &c.

A despatch has been received from H.M. Consul at Stockholm (Mr. A. Stewart MacGregor) forwarding copy of a notice inviting tenders for the supply to the Swedish Government Railways of various kinds of oils, &c., as follows:—15,000 kilogs. of olive oil; 700,000 kilogs of petroleum (American Water White); 160,000 kilogs. of Russian petroleum; 20,000 kilogs. of raw linseed oil and 60,000 kilogs. of boiled linseed oil; 400,000 kilogs. of mineral oil (cylinder); 320,000 kilogs of mineral oil (locomotive); 800,000 kilogs. of mineral oil (waggon); 160,000 kilogs. of lamp oil; 6,000 kilogs. of rape oil; 60,000 kilogs. of tallow; 50,000 kilogs. of soap; 280,000 kilogs. of cotton waste; 250,000 kilogs. of calcium carbide; and 100,000 drying cloths.

Further particulars may be obtained at the Jernvägsstyrelsens Förradsbyra, Stockholm Central Station, Stockholm.

Tenders, which will be received up to 12 noon on 11th February, should be addressed Kungl Jernvägsstyrelsen, Stockholm. Samples should be sent with the tenders.

It may be noted that, by the Swedish Law of 17th November, 1893, if tenders are invited for delivery, for home as well as foreign goods, the home goods shall have the preference in the consideration of the tenders, provided that such goods can be procured at the proper price, of the requisite quality, and at the right time.

If preference be given to goods, which are known to be foreign, an explanation must be given on the subject to the proper authorities.

DENMARK.

Coal.

According to a notice which appears in the "Berlingske Tidende" of 21st January, tenders are invited for the supply to the Aarhus gas works of about 14,000 tons of gas coal in accordance with conditions which may be obtained from the office of the Gas Works ("Gasvaerkets Kontor"), Aarhus. Tenders may be sent in up to 3 p.m. of 11th February.

BELGIUM.

Ventilating and Heating Apparatus.

The "Bulletin Commercial" announces that the Belgian State Railways invite tenders for the installation of two sets of ventilating and heating apparatus in the central workshops at Mechlin.

The adjudication for the first set will take place on the 6th March. A deposit of 1,600 fr. (about 64*l.*) is

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required to qualify any tender. Specifications (*cahiers des charges spéciaux Nos.* 231 *et* 231 *bis de* 1904) and further particulars may be obtained free of charge from "M. Slaghmuylder, ingénieur en chef, directeur de service des voies et travaux Station du Nord, Brussels."

The adjudication for the second set will take place on the 13th March. A deposit of 2,000 fr. (about 80*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Specifications, &c. (*cahiers des charges spéciaux Nos.* 246 *et* 246 *bis de* 1904) may also be obtained free of charge from the above address.

SPAIN.

Smokeless Powder Ingredients.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 17th January contains a notice calling for tenders, which will be opened at 1 p.m. on the 23rd February, at the Offices of the Powder and Explosives Factory, Calle de la Fuente Nueva, Granada, for the supply of 30 metric tons of sulphuric ether, 15 metric tons of alcohol, 50 metric tons of nitric acid, 10 metric tons of raw cotton, 400 metric tons of coal, and 200 metric tons of anthracite, for use in the manufacture of smokeless powder. A list of the maximum prices of these goods is published in the "Gaceta." Further particulars may be seen at the above-mentioned offices. Local representation would be necessary,

Transhipment Cars for Platform Cranes.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 18th January contains a notice calling for tenders which will be opened at noon on the 1st March for the supply and installation in the sheds of the Barceloneta wharf of two transhipment cars for platform cranes. A deposit of 1,500 pesetas (about 45*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Conditions of contract and plans may be inspected at the offices of the Secretary of the Port Administration, Casa Lonja, Barcelona.

Hydro-Electric Plant.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 20th January contains a Decree granting the Bidasoa Iron and Steel Company an appropriation of 5,000 litres of water per second from the River Bidasoa, in the District of Yanci, for the production of power for industrial purposes.

The "Gacetas" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

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Openings for British Trade.

ITALY.

Hydro-Electric Plant.

The "Bollettino delle Finanze" of 15th January notifies an application by Signor L. Marcello Ciurlo, Civil Engineer, of Genoa, for the appropriation of 450 litres per second from the Laccio waterfall, in the commune of Torriglia, for the production of power primarily for industrial purposes and eventually for electric traction. The cost of the works and machinery incidental to this concession is estimated at 640,000 lire (about 25,600*l.*).

A further application is notified from Signori Curletti e Erba, of Milan, for the appropriation of sufficient water from the Val Paghera and Val Pallobbia falls, in the district of Brescia, to produce 7,840 horse-power. The cost of the works and machinery incidental to this concession is estimated at 800,000 lire (about 32,000*l.*).

Motor Boats.

A recent report by the United States Consul at Venice states that there is an excellent opportunity for the sale of good and cheap motor launches there. During the past year a company has been formed for the purpose of letting motor launches on hire, and already it possesses a number of these launches. Many Venetian families are beginning to have their private motor boats, and in the Consul's opinion, others will buy when the right boat is produced.

Agricultural Implements; Locks and Hardware; Revolving Desk Chairs.

In the same report the Consul remarks that Venetia is essentially an agricultural country and requires farm implements and machinery. Locks and hardware would also find a sale in this region. Good, easy-working revolving desk chairs are most difficult to find, and to have one made to order would cost about four times the value of the article.

SERVIA.

Hats, Gloves, Ties and Handkerchiefs.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by the British Vice-Consul at Belgrade (Mr. W. G. Thesiger) that a Servian firm desire to be placed in communication with a firm in the United Kingdom who could supply them with hats, gloves, ties and handkerchiefs. Though the orders may not at first be very large, it is believed, says Mr. Thesiger, that the demand for such goods of English make is capable of considerable development.

Communications on this subject, together with price-lists, &c., should be addressed by British firms to the British Vice-Consul, British Consulate, Belgrade.

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Openings for British Trade.

ROUMANIA.

Tin Boxes.

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" (Brussels) of 19th January, states that the Roumanian Government invite tenders for the supply of 550,000 tin boxes of a capacity of 50 grammes and 150,000 tin boxes of a capacity of 100 grammes, to be delivered at the Laculetz gunpowder works. The adjudication will take place on the 4/17th February. Communications should be addressed to the offices of the State Monopoly Department, Bucharest.

MEXICO.

Hydro-Electric Plant.

The "Diario Oficial" of Mexico of 30th December contains the following applications for water power:—

(1) From Mr. Frank Turner, United States citizen, for the appropriation of 9,000 litres of water per second from the river Aros, State of Chihuahua, for the production of electric power for tramways, railways, smelting and mining works, and other industrial uses.

(2) From Señor Pedro Armendáriz for the appropriation of one cubic metre of water per second from the river Tamazula, State of Durango, for irrigation and for the production of power. Application is also made for permission to import free of duty, at one and the same time, all necessary machinery, scientific instruments and apparatus.

(3) From Mr. Thomas Macmanus for the appropriation of ten cubic metres of water per second from the river Aros, for the production of motive power to be used in exploiting the natural resources (more especially timber) of territories in the District of Guerrero, State of Chihuahua.

(4) From Señor Andres Matienzo for the appropriation of four cubic metres of water per second from the river Atoyac, Municipality of Texmelúcan, District of Huejotzingo, State of Puebla, for the production of motive power.

The "Diario" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

CHILE.

Harbour Works at Valparaiso.

With reference to the notice published in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 5th January, a telegram has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from the British Vice-Consul at Santiago (Mr. A. C. Kerr), notifying that tenders for the Valparaiso harbour works will be opened in April, 1906. Specifications will be sent to the various Chilean Legations in Europe and the United States.

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Openings for British Trade.

BRAZIL.

Hydro-Electric Plant.

In a memorandum received from the Acting British Consul-General at Rio de Janeiro (Mr. C. B. Rhind), it is stated that the concession, which in 1900 was granted by the Municipality of Rio to a local firm for the supply of electric energy generated by hydraulic force, was transferred on 1st January to the Rio de Janeiro Tramway Light and Power Company, Limited.

This Company has been formed by a group of American and Canadian capitalists and electricians who have already floated other important undertakings of a similar nature in Brazil, Mexico, Canada, and the United States of America.

It is said that the capital of the Company will be 25,000,000 dols.

Railway Material.

The "Diario Official of Brazil of 29th December contains a Decree approving the revised plans presented by the Tocantins and Araguaya Railway and River Company for the construction of the first twenty kilometres of the line from Alcobaca to Praia da Rainha, as well as the revised conditions of the concession.

The railway is to become the property of the State after the term of 90 years.

The "Diarios" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

ARGENTINA.

Sanitary Fittings.

In a recent report by the United States Consul-General at Munich it is stated that the Argentine Government have decided to equip the houses of San Juan with modern house sewers, and for this purpose a sum of 120,000*l.* has been granted. The work is to be completed within three years, and is under the supervision of the "Dirección general de Obras de Salubridad de la Nación" in Buenos Aires, to whom all enquiries should be addressed.

JAPAN.

Bicycles and Accessories.

In response to an enquiry on the subject, H.M. Consul-General at Yokohama (Mr. J. C. Hall) reports that British bicycles are little used owing to the heavy cost, but there is every reason to believe that the market will grow if a cheaper British machine than that now imported be introduced. To compete with American firms, a light machine of very low frame (the average height of the Japanese

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man is about 5 ft. 4 in.) purchasable in Japan at a price of from 100 to 150 yen (10*l.* to 15*l.*) would seem to be most suitable. The use of bicycles is at present practically limited to the open ports and some big towns, where light machines are most convenient.

Bicycles and their accessories are mostly imported from America: for this reason owners of British-made machines are seldom able to replace broken accessories, for which there seems to be a good opening.

FORTHCOMING EXHIBITION.

FRANCE.

International Automobile and Sports Exhibition.

The "Moniteur Officiel du Commerce" of 19th January, notifies the appointment by the French Minister of Commerce of a Commission charged with the organisation of an International Automobile and Sports Exhibition to be held at Paris in 1907.

NOTICE TO CLAIMANTS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF MR. MILLER (GUATEMALA).

Distribution of the Estate of the late Mr. Silvanus Miller, Contractor for the Interoceanic Railway, Guatemala.

With reference to the notice which appeared on p. 514 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for May, 1898, relative to the winding-up of the estate of the late Mr. Silvanus Miller, who in 1893 undertook the contract for the construction of a large portion of the Interoceanic or Northern Railway in the Republic of Guatemala, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information from H.M. Consul at Guatemala to the effect that the sums owing to the late contractor by the Guatemalan Government will probably be paid by April next, and that distribution will then be made of the estate in accordance with the laws of the Republic.

British subjects who have claims against Mr. Miller's estate are therefore advised to take the necessary steps to protect their interests and to present their claims, either personally or through their agents, without delay.

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TRADE OF CAPE COLONY.

With reference to the statement on pp. 589-90 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 29th December, the "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" of 3rd January publishes statistics showing the value of the trade of Cape Colony for the eleven months ended 30th November, 1904, as compared with the corresponding period of 1903. The following tables show the total value of the imports and exports, including transit trade in both cases, of the principal and other articles into and from the Colony during the periods above-mentioned:—

Imports into Cape Colony.*

Principal and other Articles.	Eleven Months ended 30th Nov., 1903.	Eleven Months ended 30th Nov., 1904.
	£	£
Provisions of all kinds (*includes butter, cheese, chicory, coffee, meats, sugar, and tea*) ...	3,680,000	2,946,000
Metals and metal manufactures (*includes iron, lead, machinery and hardware*) ...	3,562,000	2,359,000
Haberdashery	2,060,000	1,417,000
Corn and grain, &c. (*flour, maize, oats, wheat, and rice*)	2,407,000	1,279,000
Wood, and manufactures of (*includes furniture and cabinetware*)	2,041,000	1,179,000
Wearing apparel (*includes hats*)	1,697,000	892,000
Leather and leather manufactures (*includes boots and shoes, and saddlery and harness*)...	1,403,000	796,000
Cotton manufactures	1,680,000	750,000
Stationery (*includes books*)	837,000	595,000
Alcoholic beverages (*includes wine, beer, and spirits*)	546,000	350,000
Woollen manufactures	568,000	274,000
Carts and carriages (*includes bicycles*) ...	475,000	246,000
Drugs and chemicals	338,000	227,000
Soap and candles...	206,000	222,000
Animals, living	591,000	216,000
Tobacco of all sorts	272,000	203,000
Pipes, iron and earthen	169,000	192,000
Coal, coke, and patent fuel	284,000	184,000
Agricultural implements	417,000	183,000
Oil, mineral	124,000	157,000
Arms and ammunition (*includes dynamite and blasting compound and powder*) ...	194,000	144,000
Confectionery (*includes jams*)	184,000	131,000
Jewellery and plated ware (*includes clocks and watches*)	200,000	129,000
Earthenware manufactures	183,000	114,000
Cement	142,000	96,000
Paints and colours (*includes turpentine and varnish*)...	147,000	92,000
Bags, all sorts	101,000	84,000
Oilman stores (not edible)	80,000	66,000
Linen manufactures	88,000	41,000
All other articles of merchandise	4,379,000	2,967,000
Total merchandise ... £	29,055,000	18,531,000
Articles imported for the Colonial Government	2,173,000	1,769,000
Specie	923,000	39,000
Grand total, imports ... £	32,151,000	20,339,000

NOTE.—The official figures of imports into Cape Colony are exclusive of imports by the Imperial Government, but it may be noted that supplies for the Army are still partly contracted for on the spot.

* Exclusive of imports of diamonds and gold from States outside the Colony:—11,213,000*l.* in 1903, and 14,397,000*l.* in 1904.

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Trade of Cape Colony (continued).

Exports from Cape Colony.

Principal and other Articles.	Eleven Months ended 30th Nov., 1903.	Eleven Months ended 30th Nov., 1904.
	£	£
Gold (raw)	10,739,000	14,211,000
Diamonds	5,132,000	4,955,000
Wool (washed, scoured, and in the grease) ...	1,554,000	1,459,000
Ostrich feathers	881,000	997,000
Hair, Angora	611,000	560,000
Copper ore	427,000	485,000
Hides and skins	417,000	428,000
All other articles of merchandise	128,000	557,000
Total merchandise ... £	19,889,000	23,652,000
Imported goods, re-exported	514,000	383,000
Specie	2,992,000	837,000
Grand total, exports ... £	23,395,000	24,872,000

REPORT ON THE SHAN STATES IN 1903–4.

The Board of Trade have received from the India Office a copy of the report on the Administration of the Shan States in 1903–4, from which the following particulars have been extracted:—

The **Northern Shan States** have enjoyed a very prosperous year, the rapid development of railway traffic on the Mandalay-Lashio line having contributed to this. The exports by railway to Burma were valued at 31 lakhs, or an increase of 12 lakhs over the figures of 1902–3. The demand for pickled tea was remarkable, the trade in it expanding by 7 lakhs, while that for dry tea rose by 3½ lakhs. The cultivation of the latter is extending rapidly now that carriage has been cheapened. The through trade with China also improved, the caravans plying to and from the railway, to which the pack-bullock serves as a feeder. More journeys can now be made, as the traders have not to travel so far inland as Mandalay. Unluckily the safety of life and property in Western China is not well-assured, and one caravan at least was looted at the Kunlon Ferry on the Salween. The Northern Shan States are being opened out by good roads, one of which will run from Lashio towards the Salween, and the Chiefs are being encouraged to undertake works of this kind.

It is believed that the country is rich in minerals, and no fewer than 15 applications for prospecting licences were received during the year. Gold is principally sought for, but no paying reefs have yet been discovered. The washing of alluvial deposits in the valley of the Nam River is, however, being undertaken by a Rangoon firm, and this experiment will be watched with interest. The extraction of lead from the enormous amount of slag left by Chinese workers in old silver mines is also to be begun by the Great Eastern Mining Company, and very sanguine hopes are

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Report on the Shan States in 1903-4.

entertained of this enterprise. The Railway Company are exploring the Lashio coal-field, a work even more important than the casual prospecting for gold. The Northern Shan States with their products of teak, lac, and rice need cheap carriage by rail, and this can best be secured by the discovery of good coal-seams near the line.

From the report on the **Southern Shan States** it appears that outside of the Myelat many States have made satisfactory progress in improving communications. On the other hand Sir Hugh Barnes (the Lieutenant-Governor of Burma) regrets to notice that both in Möng Nai and in Kengtung the interests of the people have not in this respect been sufficiently considered. The opening up of communications within and between the States is a matter of much importance to the future development of the natural resources of the country, more especially if the construction of a railway to Taunggvi, which is again under consideration, should meet with approval. Sir Hugh Barnes regards the construction of this railway as of great moment to the future welfare and prosperity of the Southern Shan States. The Chiefs have recently submitted a joint memorial on the subject pointing out its great importance, and though it is satisfactory to note that the past year was one of good crops and of improved trade, experience tends to show that until a cheap and easy means of communication is provided with the markets of Burma there is no sufficient incentive to, and no immediate prospects of, any large extension of cultivation.

In the States as a whole crops were good, owing to the heavy rainfall. In the Myelat the Russian sun-flower was tried for the first time with good results. Oil extracted from the seed was considered excellent for culinary purposes. In the Central division experiments were made with tea and coffee seed supplied by Government in the States of Lawksawk, Nawng Wawn, Wanyin, Hsatung, Samka and Möng Pai, but no reports have yet been made.

The year's cotton crops were not good, and the price of raw cotton was 9 annas a viss, an anna higher than usual.

The Mawsön silver mines were worked spasmodically during the year. Two hundred and eighteen baskets of ore, yielding 1,507 viss of refined lead, 2,541 viss of oxydized lead and 577 ticals of silver were extracted from the Siyet mines. From the Mawsön mines the figures were 154¾ baskets of ore, of which 147¾ baskets were smelted with ore from the previous year, producing 12,427 viss of refined lead, 1,948 viss of oxydized lead and 378 9/16 ticals of silver. The Public Works Department bought 3,614 viss of refined lead, and 12,420 viss were exported to Burma. Permission was granted to sell oxydized lead to *bonâ fide* potters in the Shan States, and to encourage the industry, royalty on such sales was remitted for three years.

NOTE.—Viss = 3¼ lbs.; tical = 236 Imperial grains.

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BRITISH AND GERMAN COAL AT HAMBURG IN 1904.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a report* drawn up by H.M. Consul-General at Hamburg (Sir W. Ward) on the import trade of British and German (Westphalian) coal into Hamburg during the year 1904, from which the following particulars are taken:—

"The following figures will show that, in spite of an increase of 112,000 tons in the importations of German (Westphalian) coal, there was last year a slight falling off in the aggregate coal importations to this port as compared with those in 1903, owing to the importations of British coal having diminished by 113,000 tons:—

Year.	Importations of Coal into Hamburg.		
	British.	German (Westphalian).	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1900	3,019,400	1,598,200	4,617,600
1901	2,691,790	1,733,283	4,425,073
1902	2,792,822	1,807,774	4,600,576
1903	3,067,398	1,911,135	4,978,533
1904	2,954,398	2,023,135	4,977,533

"The importations of American coal in 1904 were quite trifling. The decrease in 1904 in the importations of British coal was, it has to be observed, not due to any falling off in the demand for the British product at Hamburg or in German inland markets, but was caused mainly by the interruption of the Elbe navigation, owing to the long drought, during several months of last year. The supplies of British coal destined for Berlin and other markets of the interior of Germany, which usually are imported into Hamburg and forwarded from thence by the river Elbe to those destinations, were last year shipped to a considerable proportion to Stettin and thence conveyed by rail to the interior of Prussia. The fact that, in spite of these shipments not having reached Hamburg during several months, the total falling off in last year's importations of British coal to this port was not much more considerable than stated above, proves at the same time that the consumption in 1904 at Hamburg itself, and in the surrounding district, must have largely exceeded that of the preceding year.

"Another occurrence which, to a certain degree, interrupted the import trade of British coal into this port in 1904, was the strike of the dock labourers employed here in discharging coal laden vessels, which lasted during nearly two months of last summer.

"As regards the prices of British coal in 1904, these remained low throughout the greater part of the year in spite of the large

* For the corresponding report for the year 1903, see "Board of Trade Journal" of 21st January, 1903, pp. 116-7.

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British and German Coal at Hamburg in 1904.

shipments of Welsh coal to Eastern Asia, owing to the depressed state of many branches of British industries (in particular of the iron industry) during the summer and autumn. It was only towards the end of last year that the tone of the British coal market became somewhat more firm. The rates of sea freight from the United Kingdom to Hamburg continued equally low as in 1903, nor is there any prospect at present of a rise.

"Only very few contracts for British coal are stated to have been concluded here as yet for the current year; consumers are still holding back, in expectation of an improvement in the condition of the more important German industries.

"Business at Hamburg in Westphalian coal bore a similar character in 1904 to that of the preceding year, and is said to have yielded little profit to merchants at this port. In spite of the restrictions placed upon production, the German Coal Syndicate is stated to have had considerable difficulty in disposing of the largely accumulated stocks; and it is thought that, by means of fair concessions to the Hamburg market, a much larger proportion of those stocks, than was actually the case, might have been got rid of. Towards the end of the year, however, the Syndicate, in spite of the competition of the Welsh collieries, which are so much more favourably situated than those of Westphalia, was able to obtain several important contracts for the shipment of German coal to Eastern Asia; only a small portion of these were, however, shipped from Hamburg.

"With regard to the prospects of the import trade of Westphalian coal to Hamburg during the year 1905, these are, so far, considered very uncertain. Most contracts for delivery of Westphalian coal run respectively to the end of March or of June next. Although the Westphalian Coal Syndicate has, it is said, promised reductions in the prices for all new contracts, these reductions are not considered here of sufficient importance for inducing merchants and shipowners at this port to enter, at all events at present, upon any more important transactions."

FOREIGN TRADE OF RUSSIA.

In a despatch to the Foreign Office, H.M. Ambassador at St. Petersburg summarises the statistics of the foreign trade of Russia for the first nine months of 1904, recently published by the Department of Customs. He adds that the figures may be of interest as furnishing some means of judging how far the war has yet affected the commercial prosperity of the country.

The total value of exports and imports for the period in question is returned at 115,770,000*l.*, as compared with 120,510,000*l.* in 1903. Of this diminution imports only account for 70,000*l.*, while exports show a falling off of 4,670,000*l.* The most notice-

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able reduction in exports, more than accounting for the total diminution, is under the head of grain, the export of which has fallen 10·7 per cent. in quantity, and 10·9 per cent. in value (from 37,900,000*l.*, in 1903, to 33,900,000*l.*, in 1904). Under this head the only exports which show an increase are barley and flour, of which, however, the export has only increased in amount, but not in value.

Other exports which show an important diminution are:—

Sugar, from 950,000*l.* in 1903 to 450,000*l.* in 1904, due doubtless to the closing of foreign markets by the Brussels Convention; oilseeds, from 860,000*l.* to 700,000*l.*; flax, from 5,000,000*l.* in 1903 to 3,000,000*l.* in 1904, due to the failure of the flax crop, which was 20 per cent. below that of 1903; and lumber, from 910,000*l.* in 1903 to 860,000*l.* in 1904.

The export of petroleum on the other hand has increased from 3,230,000*l.* in 1903 to 4,170,000*l.* in 1904.

Among imports a reduction appears in raw cotton, wood, seeds and plants, leather, paraffin, coal, colours, iron, tin, lead, wool, silk and cotton yarn, while there is an increase under the heads cast-iron, copper, zinc, coke, chemical products, tallow, beeswax, and jute.

The most important reduction is under the head of raw cotton, which shows a falling of from 930,000*l.* in 1903 to 850,000*l.* in 1904, and the price having risen about 30 per cent., the reduction in quantity is still more considerable. This must be, at least in part, attributable to the war, which has closed the important market for cotton goods in Manchuria.

The harvest of 1904 having been 14 per cent. above the average of the last five years, it is expected that the reduction in the export of grain will be made up during the last three months of the year, exporters having been disposed to hold back on account of the small demand abroad, and a rise of prices on the home market. If these expectations are realised it would appear that the war has not yet very seriously affected the foreign trade of Russia.

The Customs receipts for the period under consideration amounted to 16,000,000*l.*, showing a falling off of 400,000*l.* as compared with the same period of the preceding year.

LIQUORICE ROOT TRADE IN MESOPOTAMIA.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from Major L. S. Newmarch, Political Resident in Turkish Arabia and H.M. Consul-General at Baghdad, transmitting a memorandum on the trade in liquorice root in Mesopotamia, from which the following particulars are extracted:—

The liquorice plant grows wild in patches of varying sizes all along the banks of the Euphrates from Meskeneh (opposite

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Liquorice Root Trade in Mesopotamia.

Aleppo) down to Diwanieh, and of the Tigris from Moosul down to Koot-el-Amara. It is also found in the Dari fields of the Kharbur river, in the gardens of the Diala river, and at the northern end of the Gharraf river (Shat-el-hai).

The upper Euphrates flows through a broad flat valley three to seven miles wide, narrowing gradually down to Musayeb, where the river runs at about the same level as the surrounding plain.

The patches of liquorice occur only on the inside (of the circuitous) curves of the banks of the rivers formed by the slow fall of about one foot per 100 miles in the average level. They extend rarely more than one mile back from the bank, and never more than two miles.

The plant grows to a maximum height of about 10 feet, but its average height does not exceed four to five feet, and its branches are a staple article of fuel in Baghdad and in other town and villages. It requires a good deal of moisture, and benefits by the occasional floods that occur every few years during abnormal rises in the rivers. The soil is more favourable to the plant in the northern districts where more alluvium and clay and humus exist; below Koot-el-Amara on the Tigris and Diwanieh on the Euphrates, the admixture of sand becomes too great. It is generally only the fellaheen Arabs who will dig the root. Bedouins scorn any sort of manual labour, but some of the less nomadic tribes are occasionally induced to allow their women folk to earn money by digging root. On the upper Tigris Kurdish tribes are also available.

At present there are about 5,000 Arabs earning a livelihood by digging liquorice root. They bring it to the receiving station, where it is weighed, and then cured. Later it is shipped down to Basrah to be hydraulically pressed into bales for export to America and Europe. The difficulties of navigation in the lower Euphrates necessitate at present the transport of the root dug there by camel to the Tigris, and even on the Tigris shipments by native sailing craft during the low river season, say from July to November, are difficult and hazardous.

The collections are made chiefly in the winter months when the leaves have fallen and the branches have dried up. It is then that the root contains most juice. The quantity collected does not exceed a maximum of 10,000 tons per annum. The United States of America take about 85 per cent. of the total. In that country alone the value of liquorice in sweetening and rendering manufactured tobacco more palatable is fully appreciated.

The industry in Mesopotamia was first organised on an important scale 10 years ago, but the company who have taken up the manufacture in America of liquorice paste now control the collection of liquorice root in Mesopotamia.

The average value of the root at the time of export from Basrah is about 5*l*. per ton.

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PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

Customs Tariff—Proposed Changes (*continued from p.* 117 *of last week's* "*Journal.*")

Tariff No.	Articles.	Rates of Duty. Present.	Rates of Duty. Proposed.
	CLASS V.—HEMP, FLAX, JUTE, &c.	Dols. cts.	Dols. cts.
147	Textiles of hemp, linen, ramie, jute or other vegetable fibres, not specially mentioned, plain, twilled or damasked, weighing 35 kilogs. or more per 100 square metres, unbleached or dyed in the piece, having in warp and weft in a square of 6 mm.:		
d	19 *threads or more* ...	—	Kilog. net 0 17
148	Textiles, plain, twilled or damasked, weighing from 20 to 35 kilogs. per 100 square metres, unbleached or dyed in the piece. NOTE.—It is proposed to *omit*, under this number, sub-section (*i*), which at present provides as follows:— "The same textiles, "manufactured with dyed "yarns: Dutiable as the "textile, with a surtax of "40 per cent."		
149 & 150	Proposed proviso to Nos. 149 and 150— *Provided, that none of the articles classified under paragraphs* 149 *and* 150 *shall pay a less rate of duty than* 20 *per cent. ad valorem.*		
152	Proposed proviso to No. 152— *Provided that none of the articles classified under this paragraph shall pay a less rate of duty than* 25 *per cent. ad valorem.*		
153 & 154	Proposed proviso to Nos. 153 and 154— *Provided that none of the articles classified under paragraphs* 153 *and* 154 *shall pay a less rate of duty than* 30 *per cent. ad valorem.*		
157	Proposed proviso to No. 157— *Provided, that none of the articles classified under this paragraph shall pay a less rate of duty than* 30 *per cent. ad valorem.*		

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Proposed Tariff Changes.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Rates of Duty. Present.	Rates of Duty. Proposed.
		Dols. cts.	Dols. cts.
	CLASS VI.—WOOLS, BRISTLES, HAIR, &C.		
161	Bristle brushes, in which the bristles give the value ...	100 kgs. net 6 00	35 % *ad val.**
	CLASS VIII.—PAPER AND ITS APPLICATIONS.		
179	Writing, letter, note, ledger, bond, and record paper, ruled or unruled, unprinted, white or coloured	" 3 00	100 kgs. net 4 50
	Envelopes of all kinds shall pay duty under this paragraph with a surtax of	30 per cent.	
	Paper made up in envelopes, unprinted... ...	—	" 5 85
	Paper with printed headings, billheads, forms for invoices, labels, printed cards, printed envelopes and the like, and printed blank books	100 kgs. net 3 00 with a surtax of 50 per cent.	" 6 75
	Provided, that none of the articles classified in this paragraph shall pay a less duty than 20 per cent. ad valorem.		
	CLASS X.—ANIMALS AND ANIMAL WASTES.		
205	Horses and mares—		
	(*b*) †Other horses and mares	Each 5 00	Free (*see* proviso).
207	Asses	" 5 00	
208*a*, *b*, *c*	Bovine animals—		
	(*a*) Oxen	" 2 00	
	(*b*) Bulls and cows ...	" 1 50	
	(*c*) Calves and heifers ...	" 1 00	
	Provided, that articles classified under letter (b) of paragraph 205 and under paragraphs 207 and 208 shall be admitted free of duty until 1st January, 1909.		
220	Gloves made of leather or skin	Kilog. net 3 50	—
	(*a*) Common baseball, fencing and boxing gloves	" 0 50	—
	Gloves of all kinds, in which leather is the component material of chief value ...	—	Pair 0 10
	Provided, that none of the articles classified under this paragraph shall pay a less rate of duty than 20 per cent. ad valorem.		

* Under paragraph 164 of the proposed Tariff—"Other manufactures of bristles or hair, other than human hair, not specially provided for."

† *i.e.*, other than geldings.

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Proposed Tariff Changes.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Rates of Duty. Present.		Rates of Duty. Proposed.	
			Dols. cts.		Dols. cts.
221	Shoes of cowhide and similar leather and canvas—				
	(*a*) For men, *size No. 5½ or larger*	Pair	0 10	Pair	0 10
	(*b*) *For boys, smaller than size No. 5½*	"	0 10	"	0 05
	(*c*) For women, *size No. 2½ or larger*	"	0 08	"	0 08
	(*d*) *For girls, smaller than size No. 2½*	"	0 08	"	0 05
	(*e*) *For babies*	"	0 05	"	0 05
222	Shoes of patent and similar leather—				
	(*a*) For men, *size No. 5½ or larger*	"	0 30	"	0 40
	(*b*) *For boys, smaller than size No. 5½*	"	0 15	"	0 30
	(*c*) For women, *size No. 2½ or larger*	"	0 25	"	0 35
	(*d*) *For girls, smaller than size No. 2½*	"	0 15	"	0 30
	(*e*) *For babies*	"	0 15	"	0 10
223	Shoes or gaiters of calf skin, with elastic or buttons or for lacing—				
	(*a*) For men, *size No. 5½ or larger*	"	0 30	"	0 30
	(*b*) *For boys, smaller than size No. 5½*	"	0 15	"	0 20
	(*c*) For women, *size No. 2½ or larger*	"	0 25	"	0 25
	(*d*) *For girls, smaller than size No. 2½*	"	0 15	"	0 20
	(*e*) *For babies*	"	0 15	"	0 05
224	Gaiters of patent or similar leather—				
	(*a*) For men, *size No. 5½ or larger*	"	0 35	"	0 40
	(*b*) *For boys, smaller than size No. 5½*	"	0 20	"	0 30
	(*c*) For women, *size No. 2½ or larger*	"	0 30	"	0 35
	(*d*) *For girls, smaller than size No. 2½*	"	0 20	"	0 30
	(*e*) *For babies*	"	0 20	"	0 10
	NOTE—*The sizes of shoes and gaiters referred to in the above paragraphs are of the American standard.*				
225	Other boots and shoes, fancy...	"	0 50	"	0 50
	(*a*) *Other boots and shoes not specially provided for*	—		"	0 30

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Proposed Tariff Changes.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Rates of Duty. Present.	Rates of Duty. Proposed.
		Dols. cts.	Dols. cts.
228*a*, *b*, *c*	Saddlery and harness	No	change.
229	Other manufactures of leather or covered with leather, not specially provided for ...	Kilog. net 0 60	Kilog. net 0 40
	(*a*) *Leather belting* ...	" 0 60	" 0 25
	Provided, that none of the articles classified under paragraphs 228 *or* 229 *shall pay a less rate of duty than* 20 *per cent. ad valorem.*		
	CLASS XI.—INSTRUMENTS, MACHINERY, &C.		
238	Watches, watch cases of all kinds, watch movements, watch crystals, and other parts of watches, including those parts commonly known as watch materials, and suitable for repairs only ...	20 % *ad val.*	25 % *ad val.*
239	Clocks:		
	(*a*) Common, with weights and springs; and alarm clocks	Each 0 25	—
	(*b*) Works for wall clocks, finished, without cases...	" 0 50	—
	Cases, stands, glasses, shades and other accessories not parts for repairs will be dutiable as manufactured articles, according to their component material.		
	Clocks of all kinds (except tower clocks) complete; parts of the same, including those parts commonly known as clock materials and suitable for repair only; cases, stands, glasses, shades, and other accessories of the same	—	25 % *ad val.*
240	*Tower clocks complete*; machinery and parts for the same, whether set up or not...	Each 12 50	25 % "
241	Chronometers in cases or boxes for marine or professional use, *and cases, movements, crystals, and other parts for the same*	" 7 00	25 % "

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Proposed Tariff Changes.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Rates of Duty. Present.	Rates of Duty. Proposed.
		Dols. cts.	
243	Marine engines...		10 % *ad val.*
	(*a*) *Stationary engines*, pumps, hydraulic, *steam*, petroleum, gasoline, and hot or compressed air motors	100 kgs. net 1 50	15 % „
244	Boilers—		
	(*a*) Sheet iron	100 kgs. gr. 0 50	—
	(*b*) Other	„ 0 75	—
	Steam boilers of all kinds, whether attached to engines or not	...	15 % „
245	Agricultural machinery and apparatus, machinery and apparatus for pile driving, dredging, hoisting, making or repairing roads, for refrigerating and ice making, for making sugar, preparing rice or hemp, and other vegetable products of the islands for the markets, *and detached parts therefor*	100 kgs. gr. 0 25	5 % „
246	Locomotives, including tenders, and traction *and portable* engines, complete, *and detached parts therefor* ...	„ 1 00	15 % „
248	Apparatus and appliances (not machinery) for electric lighting and power—		
	(*a*) Switches, cut-outs, lamp sockets, shade holders, rosettes, plugs, brushes of copper and carbon, wet and dry batteries complete, tapes and compounds for winding wires, testing sets, testing bells for current, arc lamps and fittings for same, fuse boxes, insulating coils; and all insulating materials not elsewhere expressly provided for...	100 kgs. net 3 00	—
	(*b*) Galvanometers, ampèremeters, voltmeters...	„ 25 00	—
	Only articles used exclusively in the generation and distribution of electric currents for light or power shall be classed under this number.		
	Apparatus and appliances for the generation, distri-		

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Proposed Tariff Changes.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Rates of Duty. Present.	Rates of Duty. Proposed.
	bution, testing, measuring and installation of electricity, dry and wet batteries, carbon, brushes, arc lamps, and their fittings, insulating materials, tapes and compounds used exclusively for electrical purposes; bells, annunciators, telephones and apparatus pertaining to the same; galvanometers, ampèremeters, voltmeters and wattmeters; and all or any parts of apparatus specified, including insulators of glass or porcelain or other material	Dols. cts. ...	20 % *ad val.*
249	Storage batteries	100 kgs. net 25 00	20 % „
250	Dynamos, generators, exciters, and all other machinery for the generation of electricity for lighting or for power; transformers *and electric motors*...	„ 5 00	20 % „
	(*a*) *Incandescent lamps, mounted or not mounted*	Hundred 2 00*	20 % „

(*To be continued*).

TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

BRITISH INDIA.

Tariff Valuations on Cotton Goods produced in Indian Mills.

On pp. 177-8 will be found particulars of the Tariff Valuations for Excise duty fixed by Government Notification No. 8030 S.R. for various descriptions of cotton produced in British Indian mills.

Revised Tariff Valuations.

With reference to the notices published in the "Board of Trade Journal" for 4th February, 1904, and succeeding weeks, the Board of Trade have now received a copy of the "Gazette of India," dated 24th December, 1904, containing a Notification (No. 8,129 S. R.) revising, as from 1st January, 1905, the "Tariff Valuations." fixed for various classes of goods imported into British India.

* At present under No. 16*b*.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

The text of the Notification is as follows:—

"In exercise of the powers conferred by Sections 22 and 23 of the Sea Customs Act, 1878 (VIII. of 1878), in modification of the Tariff values fixed by the Indian Tariff Act, 1894 (VIII. of 1894), as amended by the Indian Tariff Act (1894) Amendment Act, 1896 (III. of 1896), and as further altered from time to time by notifications according to law, the Governor-General in Council is pleased to fix, with effect from the 1st of January, 1905, for the articles specified in column 2 of the schedule hereto annexed, the Tariff values stated in column 4 of the said schedule.

"Provided that nothing in this Notification shall affect any additional duty imposed under the powers conferred by Sections 8 A and 8 B of the Indian Tariff Act, 1894 (VIII. of 1894), as amended by the Indian Tariff Act Amendment Act, 1899 (XIV. of 1899), the Indian Tariff (Amendment) Act, 1902 (VIII. of 1902), the Indian Tariff (Amendment) Act, 1903 (XII. of 1903), and the Indian Tariff (Amendment) Act, 1904 (XI. of 1904).*

Schedule IV.—Import Tariff.

GENERAL DUTIES.

No.	Names of Articles.	Per	Tariff-Valuation.		Duty.
	ANIMALS, LIVING.		R.	a.	
1	Horses, cattle, sheep, and all other living animals of all kinds.	...	...		Free.
	ARTICLES OF FOOD AND DRINK.				
2	Coffee	cwt.	30	0	5 %
3	Fruits and vegetables (except fresh fruits and vegetables not separately enumerated, which are free)—				
	Almonds without shell	"	48	0	"
	" in the shell	"	14	0	"
	" (kágazi)	"	35	0	"
	Cashew or cajoo kernels	"	15	0	"
	Cocoanuts, Straits	thousand	65	0	"
	" others	"	30	0	"
	" kernel (khopra)	cwt.	12	0	"
	Currants, in cases	"	14	0	"
	" in cans	"	26	0	"
	" other	"	14	0	"
	Dates, dry, in bags	"	6	8	"
	" wet "	"	4	0	"
	" " in pots, boxes, and tins ...	"	8	0	"
	Figs, Persian, dried	"	10	0	"
	Garlic	"	4	0	"
	Hops	...	...		Free.
	Pistachio nuts	cwt.	30	0	5 %
	Prunes, Bussora (álu Bokhara)	"	23	0	"

* The Acts Nos. xiv. of 1899, viii. of 1902, xii. of 1903, and xi. of 1904 relate to the imposition of *additional* and *special* duties on bounty-fed sugar imported into British India.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

SCHEDULE IV.—IMPORT TARIFF—*continued.*

No.	Names of Articles.	Per	Tariff Valuation.	Duty
	ARTICLES OF FOOD AND DRINK—*contd.*		R. a.	
	Raisins, black	cwt.	8 0	5 %
	" kishmish	"	11 0	"
	" Munakka	"	8 8	"
	" other sorts	...	*ad val.*	"
	Walnuts	cwt.	8 0	"
	All other sorts of fruits and vegetables ...	...	*ad val.*	"
4	Grain and pulse, including broken grain and pulse, but not including flour.	...	...	Free.
5	Mineral and aerated waters, and all unfermented and non-alcoholic beverages.	...	*ad val.*	5 %
6	Provisions, oilmen's stores and groceries—			
	Bacon	...	"	"
	Beef and pork	...	"	"
	Bêche de mer...	...	"	"
	Butter...	lb.	1 4	"
	Cheese	...	*ad val.*	"
	China preserves in syrup	box of six jars.	4 8	"
	" " dry candied	lb.	0 4½	"
	Cocum	cwt.	[illegible] 0	"
	Fish-maws	...	...	Free.
	Flour	...	*ad val.*	5 %
	Ghi	cwt.	50 0	"
	Margarine	lb.	1 4	"
	Pork hams	...	*ad val.*	"
	Sago	cwt.	6 8	"
	Shark-fins	...	...	Free.
	Singally and sozille	...	...	"
	Tapioca	cwt.	8 0	5 %
	Vinegar, in casks	...	*ad val.*	2½ %
	" not in casks—			
	" Persian	Imp. gal.	1 8	5 %
	" Indian	"	0 6	"
	All other sorts of provisions, oilmen's stores and groceries	...	*ad val.*	"
7	Spices—			
	Betelnuts, raw, whole or split, from Goa...	cwt.	12 0	"
	" " " Ceylon	"	10 0	"
	" " " Straits	"	7 4	"
	" —all other sorts	...	*ad val.*	"
	Chillies, dry	cwt.	13 0	"
	Cloves...	"	30 0	"
	" stems and heads	"	6 0	"
	" in seeds, narlavang	"	11 0	"
	Ginger, dry	"	13 0	"
	Mace	lb.	1 2	"
	Nutmegs	"	0 6	"
	" in shell	"	0 4	"
	Pepper, black	cwt.	35 0	"
	" white	"	55 0	"
	All other sorts of spices	...	*ad val.*	"

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

SCHEDULE IV.—IMPORT TARIFF—*continued.*

No.	Names of Articles.	Per	Tariff Valuation.	Duty.
	ARTICLES OF FOOD AND DRINK—*contd.*		R. a.	
8	Sugar—			
	China, candy...	cwt.	16 4	5 % *
	Loaf	"	14 0	" *
	Crystallised, beet	"	11 10	" *
	" and soft (other than beet) refined in the United Kingdom.	"	11 10	" *
	" " " refined in China ...	"	11 10	" *
	" " " from Egypt ...	"	11 12	" *
	" " " white from Java above 20 Dutch standard	"	11 10	" *
	" " " from Mauritius ...	"	11 4	" *
	Molasses	"	2 8	"
	Sugar, all other sorts, including saccharine produce of all kinds and confectionery	...	*ad val.*	" *
9	Tea—			
	Black	lb.	0 8	"
	Green	"	0 10	"
	CHEMICALS, DRUGS, MEDICINES, AND NARCOTICS, AND DYEING AND TANNING MATERIALS.			
10	Chemical products and preparations—			
	Acid, sulphuric	lb.	0 1½	"
	Alkali, Indian (sajji-khar)	cwt.	2 0	"
	Alum	"	4 10	"
	Arsenic (other than European)	"	23 0	"
	" (China mansil)	"	19 0	"
	" other sorts	...	*ad val.*	"
	Bicarbonate of soda	cwt.	6 0	"
	Copperas, green	...	*ad val.*	2½ %
	Explosives, namely, blasting gelatine, dynamite, roburite, tonite, and all other descriptions, including detonators and blasting fuse.	...	"	5 %
	Sal ammoniac	cwt.	30 0	"
	Sulphate of copper	"	16 8	"
	Sulphur (brimstone), flour	"	5 8	"
	" ("), roll	"	5 4	"
	" ("), rough	"	5 0	"
	All other sorts of chemical products and preparations, including saltpetre, borax, grape sugar and glucose, but excluding nitrate of soda, muriate of potash, sulphate of ammonia, sulphate of potash and kainit salts, which are free.	...	*ad val.*	"
11	Drugs, medicines, and narcotics—			
	Aloes, black	cwt.	22 0	"
	" Socotra	"	14 0	"
	Aloe-wood	lb.	6 0	"
	Asafœtida (hing)	cwt.	75 0	"
	" coarse (hingra)	"	16 0	"

* Exclusive of the *additional* and *special* duties imposed upon bounty-fed sugar.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

SCHEDULE IV.—IMPORT TARIFF—*continued.*

No.	Names of Articles.	Per	Tariff Valuation.	Duty.
	CHEMICALS, DRUGS, &c.—*contd.*		R. a.	
	Atáry, Persian	cwt.	15 0	5 %
	Bánslochan (bamboo camphor)	lb.	0 4	"
	Brimstone (amalsára)	cwt.	22 0	"
	Calumba root...	"	7 0	"
	Camphor, refined, cake	lb.	1 12	"
	" partially refined, cake, in blocks of about 13 lbs.	"	1 6	"
	Camphor, crude, in powder	"	1 4	"
	Cassia lignea...	cwt.	28 0	"
	China root (chobchini), rough	"	8 0	"
	" " ("), scraped	"	16 0	"
	Cocaine	...	*ad val.*	"
	Cubebs	cwt.	19 0	"
	Galangal, China	"	5 0	"
	Pellitory (akalkara)	...	*ad val.*	"
	Peppermint crystals	...	"	"
	Quinine and other alkaloids of chinchona	...	...	Free.
	Salep	cwt.	85 0	5 %
	Senna leaves	"	5 0	"
	Storax, liquid (rose melloes or salaras) ...	"	31 0	"
	Tobacco, unmanufactured	...	...	Free.
	" manufactured	...	*ad val.*	5 %
	All other sorts of drugs, medicines, and narcotics, except opium†	...	"	"
12	Dyeing and tanning materials—			
	Alizarine dye, dry, 40 per cent.	lb.	1 4¼	"
	" " " 50 "	"	1 8½	"
	" " " 60 "	"	1 12	"
	" " " 70 "	"	2 0¼	"
	" " " 80 "	"	2 4¼	"
	" " " 100 "	"	2 12	"
	" " moist, 10 "	"	0 4¾	"
	" " " 16 "	"	0 7	"
	" " " 20 "	"	0 8	"
	Aniline " " (indigo blue)	"	0 6½	"
	" " dry	"	0 14	"
	" salts...	...	*ad val.*	"
	Avar bark	cwt.	4 0	"
	Buzgand (gulpista)	"	40 0	"
	Cochineal	lb.	1 6	"
	Gallnuts (myrabolams)	...	*ad val.*	"
	" Persian	cwt.	40 0	"
	Madder or manjit	"	8 8	"
	Orchilla weed	"	4 0	"
	Sappan wood and root	...	*ad val.*	"
	Turmeric	...	"	"
	All other sorts of dyeing and tanning materials.	...	"	"

† The duty on opium, under Schedule III., is fixed at Rs. 24 per ser of 80 tolas.

(*To be continued*).

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

NATAL.

Regulations under Adulteration of Food Act, 1901.

A copy of the "Natal Government Gazette" for 20th December last has been received containing a Proclamation (No. 137 of 1904) which lays down certain regulations under section 13 of the Natal Adulteration of Food Act (No. 45 of 1901), for the purpose of "determining what deficiency in any of the normal constituents of genuine milk, cream, butter or cheese, or what extraneous matter or proportion of water in any sample of milk (including condensed milk), cream, butter or cheese, shall raise a presumption, until the contrary is proved, that the milk, cream, butter or cheese is not genuine or is injurious to health."

The Proclamation provides, *inter alia*, for the purposes of the above-mentioned Act, that imported butter containing a higher percentage of water than 15 per cent. and condensed milk containing a smaller percentage of butter fat than 10 per cent. (unless sold as being manufactured from skimmed or partially-skimmed milk), shall be regarded as not genuine.

"Margarine or 'filled' cheese shall be subject to the same regulations applying to margarine under section 12 of the Act No. 45 of 1901, viz., every person manufacturing, *importing* or dealing in margarine cheese or 'filled' cheese shall conform to the following regulations:—Every package, parcel or vessel, whether open or closed, containing margarine or 'filled' cheese shall be conspicuously marked 'margarine cheese' on the top, bottom and sides in printed capital letters, and every person selling margarine or 'filled' cheese by retail, save in a package duly marked as aforesaid, shall in every case deliver the same to the purchaser in a paper wrapper on which shall be conspicuously printed 'margarine cheese' in capital letters."

The addition to butter of any extraneous matter or any preservative other than boric acid, or the addition to butter of a greater proportion of boric acid than 15 grains of boric acid to 1 lb. of butter, shall be regarded as injurious to health.

Export Duty on Angora Rams and Ewes.

With reference to the Notices published in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 27th October, 1904 (p. 169), and 12th January, 1905 (p. 72), respecting the imposition of a duty of 100*l.* on each Angora ram or ewe exported from the Province of Mozambique or the Cape of Good Hope, the Board of Trade have now received a copy of a Natal Proclamation (No. 135 of 1904) which, in consequence of the above provisions being made by the Governments of the Cape of Good Hope and the Province of Mozambique, provide that a similar duty shall be imposed from 1st January, 1905, under Act No. 12 of 1901,* on each Angora ram or ewe exported from Natal.

* A notice of this Act appeared in the "Board of Trade Journal" for 8th May, 1902.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

SPAIN.

Rate of Exchange for Adjustment of Customs Duties payable in Gold.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 16th January contains a Royal Order notifying that the average rate of exchange (premium of exchange on Paris) during the first fortnight of the present month was 32·94 per cent., and that the corresponding reduction of the rate of Customs duty payable in gold during the second fortnight of the present month is to be 25 per cent.

TURKEY.

Prohibition of Export of Hay from the Vilayet of Scutari.

The Board of Trade have received information, through the Foreign Office, to the effect that the exportation of hay from the Vilayet of Scutari is prohibited until the 1st May next. Exception is, however, made in favour of contracts entered into before the announcement of the prohibition.

SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

RUSSIA.

Carriage of Cotton by the Orenburg-Tashkend Railway.

The British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. Henry Cooke) in a recent report remarks that as the term approaches for the opening of through traffic on the Orenburg-Tashkend line now building, the question as to what amount of cotton the new line can rely upon becomes of more and more interest. As is well known, states the "Commercial and Industrial Gazette," the great mass of Central Asian cotton has hitherto been exported from Fergan to Krassnovodsk and Petrovsk, on opposite shores of the Caspian Sea, and thence to the Russian European railway system. Fergan cotton firms have informed the railway authorities that they could despatch up to 500,000 pouds of winter cotton under certain reduced tariff and fixed delivery terms, but so far the question remains open as to whether cotton of the current season will be sent by the new line or not. The amount of cotton conveyed by the Central Asian railway to Krassnovodsk was 5,644,218 pouds in 1903, as compared with 6,012,512 pouds in 1902.

1 poud = 36 lbs. 1,000,000 pouds = 16,121 tons.

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MINERALS, METALS, AND MACHINERY.

NATAL.

Bounty on Gold Production.

The "Natal Government Gazette" of 20th December contains a Government Notice (No. 880 of 1904) to the effect that, subject to the annual vote by Parliament of the necessary funds, a bounty will be paid on gold production in the Colony of Natal.

Payments during the financial year, ending 30th June, 1905, will be made under the following conditions:—

1. The bounty shall be payable only on gold legally won after 1st December, 1904, from claims held under the Natal Mines Act, 1899, or from gold mining leases held under Zululand Proclamation VII., 1894.

2. The bounty will be paid to the person who, at the time the bounty is paid, is registered as holder of the claim or lease from which the gold has been obtained.

3. Claims for the bounty must be addressed to the Commissioner of Mines, Pietermaritzburg, and must be accompanied by the receipt for royalty payable to the Government on the gold.

4. Payments will be made at the rate of 10*s*. per ounce of fine gold won, on which the claim to payment of bounty is proved before 30th June, 1905.

5. In order that the payment of bounty may not be delayed, interim payments of royalty will be received at Mines' Department Offices.

If the bounty is continued after the 30th June, 1905, the rate payable will be varied from time to time by the Government according to the proportion which the probable gold production may bear to the grant made by Parliament.

RUSSIA.

Proposed Roofing Iron-plate Syndicate.

The British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. Henry Cooke) reports that, according to the "Commercial and Industrial Gazette" of St. Petersburg of 24th December/6th January, an agreement has been arrived at recently between Ural iron-works with regard to the sale of roofing iron-plate. At present it has taken the form of a private agreement between the participators, disposing approximately of 80 per cent. of the Ural output of roofing iron-plate. The Ural works propose to attract not only the other Ural producers, standing aside meanwhile, but also those in other parts of Russia, more particularly the Southern works, and then only to form a syndicate, in the form of a share company, for the sale of roofing iron.

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YARNS AND TEXTILES.

BRITISH INDIA.

Tariff Valuations for Excise Duty on Cotton Goods Produced in British Indian Mills.

With reference to the notice published in the "Board of Trade Journal" for 28th January, 1904, relating to the Tariff Valuations for excise duty on Cotton goods produced in British Indian mills, the Board of Trade have received a copy of a Notification (No. 8,030 S.R.) dated 20th December, 1904, cancelling Notification No. 7,778 of 1903, and fixing, with effect from 1st January, 1905, the "Tariff Valuations" for the undermentioned descriptions of Cotton goods produced in British Indian mills, in accordance with the provisions of Section 7 of the Cotton Duties Act of 1896, as follows:—

Articles.	Tariff Valuations per lb.	
GREY GOODS, PLAIN OR BORDERED.	a.	p.
Bed-covers, bedsheets, and chadars, twilled, with borders not over ½-in.	8	3
Chadars and bedsheets, plain, or with borders not over ¼-in	8	0
Dangari or Khadi cloth	6	6
Dhuties, cholas, dupattas, and lungis, plain, or with borders not over ¼-in.	8	0
Dhuties, cholas, dupattas, and lungis, plain, or with borders over ¼-in. but not over 1½-in.	8	6
Dhuties and patals with headings over 4-in. wide and coloured borders	9	0
Domestics, T-cloths, shirtings, longcloth, sheetings with borders not over ¼-in.	8	0
Drills and jeans, plain	8	3
Fents	7	0
Printers	8	3
" (bhagavad)	7	9
Shirtings, twilled, unbleached	9	6
" " bleached	10	6
Tent, sail, commissariat, and double threaded cloth (dosuti)	7	3
Zanzibar cloth, including American cloth	8	0

Provided that for calendered grey goods three *pies* shall be added to the above values.

FIGURED OR COLOURED GOODS.	a.	p.
Bed-covers, quilts, and table cloths, with borders not over ½-in. ...	8	3
" " table cloths, twilled sheets and chadars, coloured warp or weft	8	6
Bed-covers, quilts, table cloths, twilled sheets and chadars, coloured warp and weft	10	0
Bed ticking, plain or drilled	9	0
Chadars, twilled, coloured (shawl checks)	11	9
" not twilled, coloured, calico wove, shawl pattern	10	6
Cholis and saris (coloured)...	11	9
Cotton tweed, commonly called hunting cloth, plain or striped, including leheria, Thana susi, Thana twill, and Thana check ...	10	3
Other cotton tweeds and English checks, trouserings, and coatings...	11	6

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Yarns and Textiles.

Articles.	Tariff Valuations per lb.	
	a.	p.
Drills and jeans, striped	8	9
" " checked...	9	9
" " khaki dyed	12	0
Fents	7	9
Lungis, unbleached, coloured stripes and borders	8	6
" coloured	10	3
Madras cloth...	10	0
" " (imitation)	9	3
" " twilled, checked or striped, coloured warp and weft ...	11	0
" " handkerchiefs or lungis	12	3
Napkins, unbleached	8	6
" bleached	9	6
Susi, ordinary, coloured stripes, grey ground	9	0
" " " weft	9	6
Ordinary susi checks, grey ground	10	3
" " " coloured warp and weft	10	6
Fancy dobby pattern checks, coloured warp and weft...	11	0
Flannel pattern susi and dobby susi, grey weft...	9	6
" " " " " coloured weft	10	3
Towels, Turkish, unbleached	9	3
" " bleached	10	3
" " honeycomb, unbleached	7	9
" " " bleached	8	9
Zephyr cloth...	9	6
" striped and checked	11	0

Provided that any goods specified in the foregoing lists shall, when woven with borders of silk, be assessed to duty *ad valorem.*

UNITED STATES—PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

"Abaca" (Manila Hemp) Industry.

The Monthly Summary of Commerce of the Philippine Islands for July states that there has recently been received by the Bureau of Insular Affairs of the War Department a report on the production of "abaca" prepared by Mr. H. T. Edwards, fibre expert of the Bureau of Agriculture at Manila. According to this report the exports of "abaca" from the Philippine Islands during the fiscal year ended 30th June, 1904, amounted to 129,742 tons, 1,037,936 bales valued at 21,749,960 dols., representing 72 per cent. of the total value of the exports from the islands during that period. Many new plantations are being developed.

"Abaca" enjoys the distinction of being strictly a Philippine product. The plant has been introduced into India, Borneo, the West Indies, and other parts of the world, but only in the Philippine Islands has the fibre ever been successfully produced as an article of commerce.

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AGRICULTURE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Corn Prices.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 21st January, 1905, were as follow:—

Wheat	30*s.*	5*d.*
Barley	25*s.*	0*d.*
Oats	16*s.*	5*d.*

For further particulars see p. 185.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

A statement is published on p. 186, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 21st January, 1905, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1904.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Experiments in Rice Growing: Imported Varieties Superior.

The Demerara "Argosy" of 17th December summarises an account given by Professor Harrison of the experimental cultivation of rice at the Botanic Gardens, the general results of which have been both interesting and encouraging. It may be recalled that the Board of Agriculture of British Guiana first decided to conduct these experiments at the close of 1902. Twenty-five varieties of rice, fifteen of which were ordinary paddy and ten hill paddy, were imported from Ceylon. The former grew very well, and steps have been taken to extend the cultivation. Sufficient data is now available to form an accurate opinion as to the yields of the different kinds. The hill-paddy unfortunately became heated during transit, and the first sowings entirely failed to germinate. After considerable difficulty, a few grains of each of eight varieties were successfully grown, and from these a fairly large quantity has gradually been obtained. The Board have arranged, as soon as possible, to distribute the most promising of both varieties among persons interested in the cultivation.

An expert has pronounced on the relative merits of ten out of twenty-two samples submitted by the Board. These ten varieties, the expert states, are best adapted to the system of milling and curing practised in the colony, and to the production of the best quality of rice both for local consumption and for export. It is noteworthy that in the first group, which, in addition to two imported varieties, contained a sample of the ordinary creole rice, the two parcels selected by the expert were of hill-paddy, which the experiments showed would probably be the highest yielders. In the second group, the expert favoured two samples of hill-rice, and one of the ordinary kind; the third group has one sample of

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Agriculture.

hill-paddy and one of creole; the fourth two samples of hill-paddy and one of creole. The expert's report goes to prove the good quality of the hill-rice, the value of which is accentuated by the fact that it grows with a minimum of water supply, and is far less adversely affected by drought than the ordinary kinds. So far as Professor Harrison's experiments have gone, they indicate that hill-rice requires about four months to come to maturity, whilst the creole paddy, under similar conditions, takes nearly five-and-a-half months. Moreover, the yields of many of the imported varieties were considerably larger than those of the creole rice.

FRANCE.

Sericulture in 1904.

The "Journal Officiel" of 15th January publishes statistics, prepared by the French Ministry of Agriculture, of the sericultural industry of France in the year 1904, on which the following table is based :—

—		1903.	1904.
Number of silkworm rearers		120,266	125,244
Quantity of silkworms' eggs hatched	Ounces*	182,712	183,443
Total production of fresh cocoons ...	Kilogs.	5,985,481	7,825,485
Average yield per ounce* of eggs	„	32·759	42·658

* Of 25 grammes.

MISCELLANEOUS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Cotton Statistics.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 19th January, 1905, was 116,519 (including 105 bales British West African and 5 bales British West Indian) and the number imported during the 3 weeks ended the 19th January was 416,602. As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 19th January, 1905, 7,234 bales and for the 3 weeks, 44,842.

For further details see p. 185.

Forthcoming Meeting of the Association of Chambers of Commerce.

The forty-fifth annual meeting of the Association of Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom will be held at the "Whitehall Rooms," Hotel Metropole, Whitehall Place, S.W., on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, the 28th February and 1st and 2nd March, 1905. The chair will be taken each day at 10 o'clock precisely by Sir William H. Holland, M.P. (President). Resolutions will be moved on the

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Miscellaneous.

subjects of Portuguese Tariff: Canal Development in the United Kingdom: Royal Commission on Railways: Railway Classification of Goods: Railway Rates: Fiscal Policy: Commercial Treaties: Communications with the Continent: Transport Facilities in Crown Colonies: Contraband of War: French Congo Administration: Minister of Commerce: Metric System: Decimal Weights: Speculation in Raw Materials: Municipal Trading Finance: Patent Law Amendment: Trade Marks Law: Indian Trade Mark Registration: Rating of Machinery: Sugar Tax: Law as to Liability for Debts: Municipal Franchise (Companies): Public Companies and Debentures: Companies' Liquidation: County Courts (Ireland): Alcohol for Manufactures: Closing of Ben Nevis Observatories: Suez Canal Regulations: Board of Trade Shipping Regulations: Alien Pilots: Light Dues on Shipping: Manning of the Mercantile Marine: Marine Insurance Bill: Trustees' Investment Powers: Commutation of Tenement Rates: Income Tax: Parcel Post: Telegraphic Communication with the Continent: Telegraphic Communication: Telegraphic Facilities: Anglo-French Telephone Service: Newspaper Postage: Newspaper Postage to Canada: Procedure at General Meetings of the Association: Resolutions relative to the Official Programme.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Trade in 1903-4.

The following table, showing the value of the imports and exports of British Guiana by categories of articles in the year 1903-4, as compared with the previous year, is based on figures given in the recent report issued by the Colonial Office:—

Articles.	Imports.		Exports (Colonial Produce and Manufactures).	
	1902-03.	1903-04.	1902-03.	1903-04.
	£	£	£	£
I. Live animals, food, drinks and narcotics	680,459	737,104	1,198,240	1,250,836
II. Raw materials—				
(a) Textile	18	18	—	2
(b) Metal	—	—	—	—
(c) Other	40,413	126,684	68,408	72,895
III. Manufactured articles—				
(a) Textile	244,298	251,639	12	9
(b) Metal	147,571	175,095	—	—
(c) Other	316,768	343,234	13,702	8,370
IV. Coin and bullion	14,557	22,250	372,831	327,527
V. Precious stones (diamonds) ...	—	—	20,356	18,756
Total	1,444,084	1.656,024	1,673,549	1,678,395

The report states that the value of imports for the year of report has been calculated on the lines suggested by the Departmental

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Miscellaneous.

Committee on the Compilation of Import and Export Statistics in the Colonies which reported in October, 1891; and for purposes of comparison some 14 or 15 per cent. should be added to the import totals of previous years. The values given in those years were the values declared by the importers for purposes of assessment of duty, that is, on the price charged for the goods in the principal markets of the country whence such goods were imported.

RUSSIA.

Sale of Timber in Archangel and Vologda.

The British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. Henry Cooke) sends a translation from the official "Commercial and Industrial Gazette" (St. Petersburg) of 25th December/7th January, which states that the Conference held at the Ministry of Agriculture and State Domains, of members of the said Ministry and of representatives of the chief timber firms of the Northern regions has found it possible to accede to the request of the Archangel sawmill owners. This request was that the conditions of the sale of timber from the Crown timber-area districts of the Governments of Archangel and Vologda should be rendered easier, and also to lower, by 20 to 30 per cent., the now existing prices for Crown timber in these Governments.

FRANCE.

Trade in 1904.

The following table, showing the value of the imports (for home consumption) and exports (of domestic produce) of France during the year 1904, as compared with the preceding year, is based on provisional figures published in the "Journal Officiel" of 18th January (the valuations of 1903 being applied to the 1904 quantities):—

—		1903.	1904.
Imports.		Francs.	Francs.
Articles of food and drink		961,577,000	848,511,000
Raw materials		3,020,702,000	2,865,273,000
Manufactured articles		818,926,000	822,659,000
Total	Frs.	4,801,205,000	4,536,443,000
	£	192,048,000	181,458,000
Exports.			
Articles of food and drink		663,064,000	697,947,000
Raw materials		1,175,699,000	1,252,173,000
Manufactured articles		2,150,131,000	2,208,706,000
Parcels post		263,361,000	316,667,000*
Total	Frs.	4,252,255,000	4,475,493,000
	£	170,090,000	179,020,000

* Of this amount, 20,421,000 francs was the value of parcels containing silk piece-goods and silk floss.

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Miscellaneous.

PORTUGAL.

Trade in 1903.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, an extract from the "Economista Portuguez" containing a summary of the commercial statistics of Portugal for the year 1903, which have recently been published.

They show that after the decline which occurred in 1901 and 1902 the total *special* trade of Portugal, exclusive of specie, rose again in 1903 to 89,409 contos of reis (16,937,710*l.*), exceeding the figures of the previous year by 5,378 contos (484,020*l.*), and almost equalling those of 1900.

As always, the imports, with 58,806 contos (11,173,140*l.*) largely exceed the exports (30,603 contos, or 5,814,570*l.*), leaving what is termed a "deficit" of 28,203 contos.

An analysis of the imports shows that nearly half the total represents raw materials, and nearly another quarter food-stuffs.

Of exports, food-stuffs contribute over half of the total, wine alone being responsible for a third of it, while raw materials, the next most important item, represent one-fifth.

Analysing the total *general* trade, exclusive of specie, by countries, it is seen that of a total of 124,562 contos of reis (23,666,780*l.*), the trade with Great Britain amounts to 32,064 contos (6,092,160*l.*), or over a quarter, while Germany with 16,651 contos (3,163,690*l.*) is the next largest customer, and Spain follows with 13,939 contos (2,648,410*l.*).

The trade with the Portuguese Colonies amounted to 19,500 contos (3,705,000*l.*).

MEXICO.

New Monetary Law: Erratum.

With reference to the translation of the Decree relating to monetary reform in Mexico, which appeared on p. 38 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 5th January, it is pointed out that the words "10 milligrammes" were wrongly inserted, twice, in the translation of Clause (*a*) of Article 1 of the Decree. They should be deleted, making the Clause read as follows:—

The existing silver dollar of 24·4388 grammes of fine silver and 2·6342 grammes of copper shall remain unlimited legal tender.

URUGUAY.

Trade, First Half of 1904.

The "Montevideo Times" of the 14th December, 1904, publishes the following statistics of the foreign trade of Uruguay during the first six months of 1904, supplied from official sources, to which, for the sake of comparison, have been added the figures for similar periods of 1903 and 1902:—

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Miscellaneous.

Imports.

—	First Six Months of		
	1902.	1903.	1904.
	Dols.	Dols.	Dols.
Drinks in general	1,026,754	920,337	650,864
Comestibles, cereals and spices ...	2,429,639	2,291,557	1,983,131
Tobacco and cigars...	92,570	113,487	112,980
Stuffs and woven goods	2,103,786	2,461,781	1,572,437
Made clothing	500,873	660,718	378,861
Raw and industrial material and machinery	3,843,720	3,751,336	3,451,218
Various	1,238,610	1,309,212	925,866
Live-stock	459,783	621,985	282,275
Total ... ... Dols.	11,702,735	12,070,503	9,357,632

Exports.

—	First Six Months of		
	1902.	1903.	1904.
	Dols.	Dols.	Dols.
Live-stock	452,040	637,984	771,405
Slaughter-house products	18,419,159	23,141,847	21,567,142
Agricultural products	1,377,549	971,361	833,485
Other products	276,430	238,857	320,489
Various	8,465	9,839	4,914
Provisions for vessels	65,911	81,167	84,313
Total... ... Dols.	20,599,554	25,081,055	23,581,748

NOTE.—Uruguayan dollar = 4*s*. $3\frac{1}{16}$*d*.

ECUADOR.

State Monopoly of Matches, Tobacco and Cigarette Paper.

The "Moniteur Officiel du Commerce" of 19th January states that the Congress of Ecuador have passed a Law establishing a State monopoly of matches, tobacco and cigarette paper. The governors of provinces are ordered to purchase all existing stocks of matches and cigarette paper. All consignments of these goods ordered before the date of the Law (16th November, 1904) will be purchased by the Government at invoice price plus 10 per cent. Packets of matches will be stamped and sold in Government establishments only at sucre 0·18 each; the retail price hitherto has been sucre 0·20. The price of cigarette paper and tobacco will be fixed by a special Decree.

Sucre = 2*s*. (about).

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STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the Week and 3 Weeks ended 19th January, 1905.

—	Week ended 19th Jan., 1905.	3 Weeks ended 19th Jan., 1905.	Week ended 19th Jan., 1905.	3 Weeks ended 19th Jan., 1905.
	Imports. (Bales.)		Exports. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American	91,921	356,885	6,031	37,423
Brazilian	2,260	4,244	100	100
East Indian	1,344	3,782	300	866
Egyptian	18,955	39,365	698	6,222
Miscellaneous	2,039*	12,326	105	231
Total	116,519	416,602	7,234	44,842

* Including 105 bales British West African and 5 bales British West Indian.

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 21st January, 1905, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

—	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 21st January, 1905	30	5	25	0	16	5
Corresponding week in—						
1898	34	6	27	8	17	2
1899	26	7	27	9	17	0
1900	25	10	25	9	16	4
1901	26	10	25	6	17	6
1902	27	7	26	7	20	3
1903	25	0	24	1	16	11
1904	27	3	22	4	15	11

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

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Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 21st January, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

—		Week ended 21st Jan., 1905.	*Corresponding Week in 1904.*
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number.	10,587	*11,720*
Sheep and lambs	"	6,801	*12,073*
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	202	*404*
Fresh Meat :—			
Beef	Cwts.	90,005	*86,064*
Mutton	"	57,657	*45,011*
Pork	"	18,478	*18,417*
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Cwts.	115,822	*103,835*
Beef	"	2,008	*1,438*
Hams	"	20,268	*19,845*
Pork	"	4,927	*3,379*
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ...	"	10,878	*13,417*
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting...	"	14,338	*13,991*
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwts.	84,246	*70,990*
Margarine	"	18,936	*15,966*
Cheese	"	38,885	*36,890*
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	*37*
" cream	"	60	*118*
" condensed	"	18,935	*18,507*
" preserved, other kinds...	"	87	*34*
Eggs	Grt. Hundr.	265,218	*331,517*
Poultry	Value £	61,239	*39,022*
Game	"	3,660	*9,612*
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	Cwts.	6,125	*3,479*
Lard	"	33,292	*48,494*
Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—			
Wheat	Cwts.	1,439,100	*1,474,500*
Wheat meal and flour	"	131,700	*491,500*
Barley	"	305,500	*742,700*
Oats	"	268,300	*218,900*
Peas	"	76,590	*14,860*
Beans	"	5,880	*8,460*
Maize or Indian corn	"	984,400	*548,100*
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Cwts.	100,871	*96,453*
Apricots and peaches	"	8	*10*
Bananas	Bunches.	30,521	*49,026*
Cherries	Cwts.	—	—
Currants...	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	—	—
Grapes	"	126	*71*
Lemons	"	14,290	*22,833*
Oranges	"	231,254	*201,540*
Pears	"	654	*195*
Plums	"	4	—
Strawberries	"	—	—
Unenumerated	"	4,156	*1,644*
Hay...	Tons.	1,715	*3,072*
Straw	"	2,406	*2,796*
Moss Litter*	"	1,578	—
Hops	Cwts.	2,458	*14,729*
Locust Beans	"	41,482	*19,932*
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels.	120,527	*157,483*
Potatoes	Cwts.	45,674	*300,249*
Tomatoes	"	7,252	*9,572*
Unenumerated	Value £	6,873	*8,364*
Vegetables, dried	Cwts.	3,699	*4,621*
Preserved by canning...	"	4,358	*9,036*

* Not shown in 1904.

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GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of December, 1904, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance of 1*s*. per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1903, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s*. 1*d*. for the first, and 5*s*. for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1899–1903, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade on the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appeared in the number issued in January:—State of the Labour Market in December; Changes in Wages and Hours in 1904; Relief of the Unemployed; Co-operation in 1903; Housing Problem in Canada; Irish Migratory Labourers; Industrial Census of Roumania; and Illinois Free Employment Registries.

FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in a Consular Report of the Annual Series issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

ANNUAL.

No. 3,321. Trade of Somaliland Protectorate for the year 1903-04.

Large increase in trade.

Detailed statement of imports and exports at Zaila, Berbera and Bulhar, Karam and Heis.

Remarks on piece-goods at Berbera and Bulhar, with list of prices of different varieties.

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OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

Africa, No. 15 (1904). *Report on the East Africa Protectorate for the year* 1903-4. [*Cd.* 2,331.] *Price* 5½*d.*

This report, after giving a general review of the state of affairs in the East Africa Protectorate in 1903-4, deals with its administration, health, products, trade, shipping, finance, public works, &c. Statistical tables dealing with the trade and revenue of the Protectorate are appended; the value of the trade imports during the year ended 31st March last amounted to 436,947*l.*, as compared with 443,032*l.* during the preceding year, and the value of the exports to 159,815*l.*, as compared with 148,060*l.*

A report on sleeping sickness and agricultural reports from the various districts of the Protectorate are also appended to the report.

The Journal of the Board of Agriculture.

This publication contains information as to the position of agriculture at home and abroad, crop prospects in foreign countries, and further particulars obtained from foreign and colonial reports, Diplomatic and Consular Despatches, and other sources of intelligence accessible to the department; together with notes on dairying, fruit farming, poultry rearing, and other rural industries. Short descriptions of noxious insects and fungi, with appropriate remedies; information relating to wild birds useful to agriculture; statements of the quantities and values of agricultural produce imported and exported; and records of the current prices of grain, meat, dairy products, fruit, and vegetables, are given in each number.

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LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

THE following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since 1st January, 1904, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

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COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT, BOARD OF TRADE.

January, 1905.

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To Merchants, Manufacturers, and Shippers whose Advertisements appear in the "Board of Trade Journal."

(*Where no folio is given, Advertisement does not appear in this issue.*)

PAGE

Absorbent Blottings—
Tullis, R., & Co., Markinch, Fife ... ...

Adamantine Clinker (Regd.)—
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham 25

Admiralty Charts—
Potter, J. D., 145, Minories..

Agents (Colonial & Foreign)—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Agricultural Seeds—
Cooper, Taber & Co., 90 & 92, Southwark Street, S.E. ... 16
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ... 19

Air Compressors—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

Ale, Beer, and Stout Merchants—
Daukes & Co., Strand, London 19

Alkali Manufacturers—
Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire 13
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C

Alloys—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

PAGE

Ammonia, Anhydrous, & Liquid—
Brotherton & Co., Leeds (Carbonate of Ammonia, Muriate of Ammonia, &c.) 15

Ammonia (Anhydrous), Valves for—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Ammunition Manufacturers—
King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham ... ...
Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow C

Antifouling Composition for Ships—
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Anti-friction Metal—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Antimony Paint—
Parker & Lester, London, S.E. 23

Antiquities in Sundials—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Artists' Colours—
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 12

PAGE

Athletic Goods Manufacturers—
Quaife Bros. & Lilley, 313, Broad Street, Birmingham

Bags and Sacks—
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool ... ...

Baths, Porcelain, Enamelled (Cast Iron)—
Clark, T. & C., & Co., Wolverhampton ... ...

Bedding—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., South Place, Finsbury, E.C. ...

Bedsteads (Iron and Brass)—
Bott, J. T., Ltd., Glover Street, Birmingham... ...
Evered & Co., London and Birmingham ... ...
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Bordesley, Birmingham, and South Place, Finsbury, E.C.
Hoyland, John, Ltd., Birmingham and London ...

Bellows—
Brison, E., & Co., Bristol ... 10

Bevelled and Bent Glass—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Billiard Table Manufacturers—
Cox & Yeman, London, S.W.
Edwards, George, London, N.E. ... ...

Binoxide of Barium—
Bessler, Waechter & Co., 18 & 19, Fenchurch Street, E.C. 8
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle 1

Bird Seeds and Foods—
Hyde, R., & Co., London, S.E. 17

Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, J., & Son, 58, City Road, E.C.... ... ...

Biscuit Manufacturers—
Hubbard, Walter, Partick, Glasgow. Export Agent—J. S. Morrison, Son & Jones, Peninsular Buildings, London, E.C. 10

Blankets—Cotton—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester.

Bleaching Powder—
Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire ... 13
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C

Blue Manufacturers—
Edge, Wm., & Sons, Ltd., Bolton... 18

PAGE

Boiler Incrustation (Prevention and Removal of)—
The Boilerine Manufacturing Co., Old Kent Road, S.E...
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Boiler Makers—
Butterley Co. (The), Ltd., Derby ... ...
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Garrett, R., & Son, Ltd., Leiston, R.S.O. ... ...
Hartley & Sugden, Ltd., Halifax ... ...
Marriott & Graham, Govan, N.B. ... ...

Boiler Makers and Heating Engineers—
Riley, J. Ashton, Ltd., Manchester Road, Huddersfield

Boiler Tubes—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ... ...

Bolts, Nuts and Screws—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...
Periam, Herb. W., Birmingham (Screws, Rivets, Washers, Nails (Roofing))

Bone Mill Manufacturers—
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable

PAGE

Boots and Shoes—
Lewis, C. & E., Northampton

Bottled Fruits—
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading 10

Brass Finishers—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury

Brassfounders—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Brass Plate Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn ... ...

Brass Scrap Merchants—
Adams, John, & Sons, Newcastle-on-Tyne ... ...

Bread & Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Brick & Tile Manufacturers—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Enamelled and Glazed Bricks, Glazed Wall Tiles)
Pearson, E. J. & J., Stourbridge
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham 25
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Brickmaking Machinery—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley. Staffs ... ...

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Bronze Manufacturers—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Brush Manufacturers—
Brison, E., & Co., Bristol ... 10
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...

Bulbs—
Cooper, Taber & Co., Ltd., London 16

Bunting Manufacturers—
Riley, E., & Co., Providence Street Mills, Leeds ... ...

Button Manufacturers—
Smith & Wright, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

Cables and Wires—
Connolly Bros., Ltd., Blackley, Manchester ... ...
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Telegraph Manufact'ng Co., Ltd., The, Helsby, Warrington ... ...

PAGE

Candle Manufacturers—
Ogston & Tennant, Ltd., Aberdeen ... ...
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. C

Carbolic Acid—
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Carbonic Acid Gas Valves—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Carboys—
Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks 1

Carpets and Rugs—
Barton, J. E., & Sons, Kidderminster 4

Carriage Builders—
Forder & Co., Ltd., Warrant Holders to H.M. the King, Upper St. Martin's Lane, W.C.; Works, Wolverhampton ... ...

Cartridge Manufacturers—
Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow C

Cement Manufacturers—
Peters Bros., London, S.W....
West Kent Portland Cement Co., Burham, nr. Rochester

PAGE

Charm Manufacturers—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Chemical Manufacturers—
Anglo - Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. C
Bessler, Waechter & Co., London, E.C. 8
Blythe, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs 2
Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., Northwich, Cheshire ... 13
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith ... ...
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle 1
Miller, Jas., Son & Co., Glasgow 22
The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan 4
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C

Chemical Manure Manufacturers—
Anglo - Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. C
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B. ... ...
Fison, Joseph, & Co., Ltd, Ipswich ... ...

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PAGE

Chemical Manure Manufacturers—*continued*—
Richards, G. H., 234, Borough High Street, S.E. ... ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C

Chemical & Physical Apparatus—
Reynolds & Branson, Ltd., Leeds ... ...

Chemists (Manufacturing)—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ... C
Scott & Bowne, Ltd., London, E.C. (Scott's Emulsion) ... 11
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A, Southwark Street, London, S.E. 1

Chilled Shot—
The Abbey Improved Chilled Shot Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne 4

Chimney Cowl Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester ...

Chimney Shaft, &c., Builder and Repairer—
Lewis, Joseph, 5 and 6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. ... ...

China Clay—
Lovering, John, & Co., St. Austell ... ...

PAGE

China Door Furniture Mnfrs.—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C...

China Electrical Fittings—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C...

China Manufacturers—
Fellhèimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...
Lovering, John, & Co., St. Austell, Cornwall ... ...

Chronometers—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....
Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 and 34, Cockspur Street, London... ...

Clocks and Watches—
Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 and 34, Cockspur Street, London... ...
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...

Cloth Finishing Machines—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee

Clothing (Fustian)—
Brown, R. B., & Sons, Hebden Bridge... ... ...

Clothing Manufacturers (Fustian)—
Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge

Clothing and Woollen Mnfrs.—
Grainger & Smith, Dudley ...

PAGE

Cloths for Machinery—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury

Clutch Manufacturers—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

Coal and Coke—
Cannock Chase Colliery Co., Ltd., Birmingham ... ...
Cory Bros., & Co., Ltd., Cardiff ... ...
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. ...
Wharncliffe Woodmoor Colliery Co., Ltd., Barnsley...
Wigan Coal and Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan ... ...

Coal Depot Proprietors—
Cory Bros. & Co., Cardiff ...
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. ...

Coal Screening Plant—
Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield ... ...

Coatings—Cotton—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester

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Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Coffee Mill Manufacturers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Colliery Engines—
Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield ... ...

Colliery Owners—
Cannock Chase Colliery Co., The, Ltd., Birmingham ...
Cory Bros. & Co., Cardiff ...
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. ...
Wharncliffe Woodmoor Colliery Co., Ltd., Barnsley...

Colour Manufacturers—
Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen...
Levinstein, Ltd., Manchester
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C. 15
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 12

Composition for Bottoms of Ships—
Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen...
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...

Compressed Gases (Fittings for)—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Concertinas (English)—
Lachenal & Co., Little James Street, W.C. ... ...

Confectioners—
Craven, M. A., & Son, Ebor Confectionery Works, York

Confectioners' Colours, Essences, &c.—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ... C
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours and Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., Hackney Wick, N.E. 24
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A, Southwark Street, London, S.E. 1

Confectioners (Manufacturing, Wholesale and Export)—
Craven, M. A., & Son, Ebor Confectionery Works, York

PAGE

Coping and Paving Bricks—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Copper Tape, Wire Rope, &c.—
Connolly Bros., Ltd., Blackley, Manchester ... ...
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Corks—
Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks 1

Cotton Bagging—
Judge, T. & W., London, S.E.

Cotton Goods—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow ... ...
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury
Spinner, E., & Co., Manchester ... ...

Cotton Waste—
Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester... ...

Cranes, Crab-Winches—
Russell, George, & Co., Motherwell, N.B. ... ...

Creosote—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Damp Wall Compositions—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. 21

Decklights and Porthole Glasses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Birmingham ... ...

Decorated Tin Plates—
The Tinplate Decorating Co., Ltd., Neath ... ...

Decorative Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Delta Metal Manufacturers—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Disinfectants—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... .

PAGE

Disintegrators—
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable... ... ...
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ... ...

Distillers—
Crawford, Daniel, & Son, Ltd., Glasgow 3
Dailuaine-Talisker Distilleries, Ltd., Carron, Strathspey 6
Distillers Co., Ltd., The, Edinburgh 11

Docks (Floating) Caissons, &c.—
Cardiff Railway Co., The, Bute Docks, Cardiff; London Office, 22A, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W. ... ...
Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Co., Wyre Dock, Fleetwood ... ...

Door Furniture—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C...

Drilling Machines—
Northern Engineering Co., Ltd., King's Cross, near Halifax ... ...

Drills—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester.

Dry Soap—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Dye Merchants—
Edge, Wm., Sons & Co., Bolton... 18

Edge Tools—
Thornton, G., & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Electrical Fittings (China)—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C....

Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and Contractors—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C....
Gaskell, A. E., & Co., Manchester ... ...
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and Contractors—*continued*—
Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Lewis, Joseph, 5-6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. ... ...

Electric Bells—
Wright, Archibald J., Ltd., 318, Upper St., London, N.

Electric Light Fittings—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C....

Electric Novelties—
Wright, Archibald J., Ltd., 318, Upper St., London, N.

Electrical Screws (Iron, Steel or Brass)—
Acme Lathe Co., Ltd., The, Ardwick, Manchester ...

Emery and Corundum Wheel Manufacturers—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, near Manchester ...

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London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...

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London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...

Emery Grindg. Machine Mkrs.—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester ... ...

Emery Manufacturers—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (Emery Wheel and Corundum Wheel Manufacturers) ...

Enamel Colours—
Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen...

PAGE

Enamelled Fire Clay Sinks—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

Encaustic Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Sons, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs... ...

Engine Cleaning Waste—
Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester... ...

Engineers—
Northern Engineering Co., Halifax ... ...

Engineers (Boilers)—
Riley, J. Ashton, Ltd., Manchester Road, Huddersfield

Engineers' Ironfounders—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee (Machine Moulded Wheels)
Whittingham & Porter, Hull
Wigan Coal and Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan ... ...
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorkhouse ... ...

Engineers' Oil Cans—
Kaye, Joseph, & Sons, Ltd., Leeds ... ...

Engineers' Stores—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Engineers' Tool Makers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... ...
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ... ...

Engineers and Millwrights—*General*—
Aveling & Porter, Rochester (Locomotives, Road Rollers, &c.) ... ...
Baird, W., & Co., Glasgow (Pig Iron, Coal, Coke, &c.) ...
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...
Burrell, C., & Sons, Ltd., Thetford (Locomotives, Steam Rollers, Traction Engines) ... ...
Chidlaw, Robert, Manchester
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Garrett, R., & Sons, Leiston, Suffolk ... ...

PAGE

Engineers and Millwrights—*General—continued*—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N.
Howorth, J., & Co., Farnworth, Manchester ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (various forms of Engineers' Grinding and Polishing Machinery) ... ...
Marriott & Graham, Govan, Glasgow (Boiler Makers)...
Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield ... ...
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee
Russell, G., & Co., Motherwell, N.B. ... ...
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...
Spencer, Moulton & Co., Ltd., Bradford-on-Avon, Wilts...
Whiteley, William, & Sons, Lockwood, Huddersfield...
Whittingham & Porter, Hull
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorkshire ... ...

Engine Packings—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Engine-cleaning Waste—
Jones, W. C., Ltd., Manchester ... ...

Engine Roll Bars—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Sheffield ... ...

Essence Manufacturers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ... C
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading 10
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours & Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., The, London, N.E. 24
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. 2
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark-street, London, S.E. 1

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Essences, &c.—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ... C
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. 1

Essential Oils—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ... C
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. 1

Exhibition Agents—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn... 4

Exhibition Fitters—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 4

Fancy Goods, Dealers in, Importers, Warehousemen and Manufacturers—
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...

Fancywood Merchants—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool ... ...

Fan Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester ...

Feeding Stuffs (for Cattle & Sheep)—
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B. ... ...

Felts (Paper Makers' Machine)—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury

Fencing (Steel and Iron)—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

File Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... ...

Filter Manufacturers—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...

Fire Bricks—
Calder Fireclay Co., The, Coatbridge... ... ...
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

Fire Bricks—*continued*— PAGE
King Bros., Stourbridge ...
Pearson, E. J. & J., Stourbridge
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...

Fire Clay—
King Bros., Stourbridge ...
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...

Fire Clay Goods—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Sinks) ... ...

Flag and Banner Manufacturers—
Piggott Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Flannel Manufacturers—
Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale ... ...
Spinner & Co., Manchester...

Flour Mill Engineers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Flour Millers—
Appleby, Josh., & Sons, Ltd., Liverpool C
Vernon, W., & Sons, Liverpool 8

Forks—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Forwarding Agents—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., 38, Lime Street, E.C. 20

French Chalk—
Anglo-Italian Talc and Plumbago Mines Co., Ltd., 26, Old Hall Street, Liverpool

Fruit Essence Manufacturers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ... C
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours & Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., London, N.E. ... 24
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. 1

Furniture Trade Printers—
Smiley & Shaw, London, E.C.

Fustian Clothing Manufacturers—
Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge

Fustian (Piece Goods)— PAGE
Moss Bros. (Hebden Bridge), Ltd. ... ...

Galvanized Iron Manufacturers—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Galvanized Wire Netting—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

Garden Adornments—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Garden Furniture—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

Garden Requisite Manufacturer—
Richards, G. H., 234, Borough High Street, S.E. ... ...

Gas Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Manchester ... ...

Gas Furnaces—
Cannington, Shaw & Co., St. Helens, Lancashire ... ...

Gas Governors—
Shaw, Joseph, Huddersfield..

Gas-Tight Motors—
Hodson Wright & Wood, Halifax ... ...

Gates, Railings, and Hurdles—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

Gauge Glasses—
Butterworth Bros., Newton Heath, Manchester ... ...
Tomey & Sons, Perth ... ...
Tomey, Joseph, & Sons, Messrs., Ltd., Manor Glass Works, Aston, Birmingham

Gauge Glass Protectors—
Tomey, Joseph, & Sons, Messrs., Ltd., Manor Glass Works, Aston, Birmingham

Gear Cutter—
Chidlaw, Robert, 43, City Road, Manchester ... ...

Gelatines—
The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan 4

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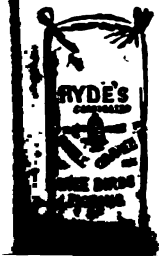

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

General Export Merchants— PAGE
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E....

Gin Distillers—
Distillers Co., Ltd., The, Edinburgh... 11
Hills & Underwood, London, E.C. 10

Girders (Iron and Steel)—
Scott, Walter, Ltd., Leeds ...

Glass and Emery Paper—
London Emery Works Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Glass Bottles—
Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks 1
Cannington, Shaw & Co., Ltd., St. Helens 2

Glass-Case Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 4

Glass-Manufacturers—
Robinson, J. B., 31, Moor Lane, E.C.... 15
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Glass Works—
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Glazed Bricks—
Woolliscroft, G., & Sons, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Glazed Fire Clay Sinks—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

Glaziers' Diamonds—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Glues—
The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan ... 4

Glycerine—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. C

Golf Balls—
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ("Melfort" and "Henley")... ... ...

Grain Cleaning Machinery— PAGE
Boby, Robt., Ltd., Bury St. Edmunds ... ...

Granite Merchants—
Freeman, John, Sons & Co., Ltd., Penryn, Cornwall (Engineering and Architectural) ... ...

Grease Manufacturers—
Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool 8
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 12

Grinding Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable ... ...

Grinding & Polishing Machry.—
London Emery Works Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (Makers of various forms of)... ...

Guano Manufacturers—
Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. C

Gummed Paper—
Jones, S., & Co., 56, Carter Lane, St. Paul's, E.C. ...

Hammers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... ...

Hams and Bacon—
Nickson, G. & J., & Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Hand Looms—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Hardwood Merchants—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool ... ...

Hat Manufacturers—
Christy & Co., London, E.C.

Heating & Ventilating Engineers—
Hartley & Sugden, Halifax (Boilers) ... ...
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Hoes— PAGE
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ... ...
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Holloware—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Hop Commissioners—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ... 19

Hose—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Hose-Pipe Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Hosiery—
Walker, R., & Sons, Rutland Street, Leicester ... ...

Hosiery & Finishing Machnry.—
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Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester ...

Hydraulic Engineers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Hydraulic Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ... ...

Hydraulic Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Ice Machine Manufacturers—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

India-rubber Goods—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C. ...

India-rubber Manufacturers—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C.
Harris, Joseph, Altrincham (Advertising Balloons, Squeakers, and Rubber Surgical Appliances) ...
India-Rubber, Gutta-Percha & Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Injectors—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Ink Manufacturers—
Blackwell & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Inkstands—
Darke, E., 14a, Gt. Marlborough Street, W. ... ...

Insecticides (Horticultural)—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. C

Insulators—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C. ..

Iron Buildings—
Ash, J., & Son, Rea Street, South Birmingham ... ...
Humphreys, Ltd., Knightsbridge, London, S.W. ...

Iron Plate Workers—
Ash, J., & Son, Rea Street, South Birmingham ... ...

Iron Safes—
Ratner Safe Co., Ltd., Hancock Road, Bow, E. 4

Ironfounders—
Roberts, J. & S., Ltd., West Bromwich ... ...
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee
Saxby & Farmer, Canterbury Road, London, N.W. ...
Whittingham & Porter, Hull
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

PAGE

Ironmasters—
Baird, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Gartsherrie, N.B. ... ...
Parkgate Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham ... ...
Whiteley & Sons, Ltd., Huddersfield ... ...

Ironstone Adamant Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs. ... ...

Jute Weaving Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Knitting Machine Builders—
Stibbe, G., & Co., Leicester...
Harrison Patent Knitting Machine Co., Ltd., 227, Upper Brook Street, Manchester ... ...

Lacquer Manufacturers—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E...
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E. ... ...
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Lamp Manufacturers—
Bladon, T. E., 99 and 100, Northwood Street, Birmingham; London address, 4, Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, E.C. ... ...

Lathes (Turning, Polishing, &c.)—
Fabricotti, B., London, S.W..
Northern Engineering Co., Ltd., King's Cross, near Halifax ... ...

Launch Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Patricroft, Manchester ...

Launch Oil Engines—
The Seal Motor Co., Hammersmith, London ... ...

Lead Glazing—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N. ... ...

Lead Manufacturers—
Hall, W., Winstanley Road, Battersea, S.W.... ... ...

Leather Belting (Link)—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

PAGE

Leather Reviver—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E.

Leggings and Gaiters—
Wallace, Bailey & Wilkins, Bermondsey, London, S.E.

Lens Manufacturers for Ships and Railway Lamps—
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Letter Cutters—
Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield ...

Lifts—
Clark, Bunnett, & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

Lightning Conductor Manufacturer and Erector—
Lewis, Joseph, 5 & 6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. ... ...

Lime Juice—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. 3

Liquorice Wafers—
Hillabys', Ltd., Pontefract... 10

Lithographic Varnish—
Coates Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Locomotive Engine Builders—
Aveling & Porter, Ltd., Rochester ... ...
Burrell, C., & Sons, Ltd., Thetford ... ...
Garrett, R., & Sons, Leiston, Suffolk ... ...

Looking Glass Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 4
Robinson, J. B., 31, Moor Lane, E.C. 15

Loom Makers—
Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee

Lubricants—
Bremner, J. A., & Co., Manchester C
Fleming, A. B., & Co., Edinburgh ... ...
Nobel Bros., Petersburg ... 5

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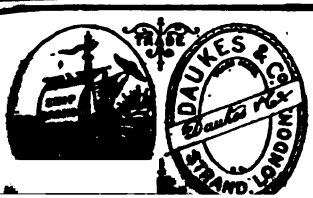

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Lubricants—*continued*— PAGE
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. C

Lubricating Oils—
Light, Jas., & Son, Ltd., 9, Rumford Street, Liverpool 8
Nobel Bros., Petersburg ... 5
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Lubricators—
Nobel Bros., Petersburg ... 5

Machine Felts—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury

Machine Knives, Cutters & Blades—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ...

Machine Makers—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee

Machine Screws, Bolts, Nuts, &c.—
Acme Lathe Co., Ltd., The, Ardwick, Manchester ...

Magnesia—
Henry, T. & W., East Street, St. Peters, Manchester ... 24

Manchester Warehousemen—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E. ...

Manures (Chemical)—
Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. C
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith ... ...
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle 1
Thomson, Wm., & Sons, Ltd., Clovenfords by Galashiels (for Vines & Plants) ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C

Marble and Granite Merchant and Importer—
Fabbricotti, B., Pimlico, London, S.W. ... ...

Marble Manufacturers of all Descriptions—
Fabbricotti, B., Pimlico, London, S.W. ... ...

Mattresses (Woven Wire)— PAGE
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Hay Mill, Birmingham ... ...
Lane, George, & Sons, Brueton Street, Birmingham ...

Medical Plasters—
De St. Dalmas, A., & Co., Leicester ... ...

Metal Merchants and Manfrs.—
Billington & Newton, Longport, Staffs. ... ...
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Dugard Bros., Birmingham...
King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

Metal Polish—
Baumgartner, J. F., & Co., London, W. 5

Military and Naval Ornaments—
Narborough, F., 40, 42, 44, Lombard Street, Birmingham ... ...
Wilkins, T. B., 52, Clement Street, Birmingham... ...

Mine Owners—
Wigan Coal & Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan (Producers of Best House, Gas and Steam Coals, and Wigan Cannel)

Mineral Waters—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. 3

Mining Lamps (all classes)—
Cooke, Joseph, & Son (Belmont Passage), 203, Lawley Street, Birmingham ... ...

Mortar and Pestle Manfrs.—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C....

Mortice Furniture—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C....

Mosaic and Tiles Decoration—
Geary, Walker & Co., 11, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C. ... ...
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs. ... ...

Motors (Gas Tight)—
Hodgson, Wright & Wood, Halifax ... ...

Mushroom Ketchup— PAGE
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading 10

Musical Instrument Manfrs.—
Lachenal & Co., London, W.C.

Mustard Seed—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ... 19

Nails—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

Name Plate Makers—
Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield ...

Newspapers—
Colliery Guardian, 49, Essex Street, Strand, W.C. ... 14

Night Lights—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. C

Oar Manufacturers—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool ... ...

Office Fittings—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 4

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Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B. ... ...

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Kaye, Joseph, & Sons, Ltd., Leeds ... ...

Oil Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Manchester ... ...
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Oil Mill Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Oil Refiners, Distillers, and Manufacturers—*continued*—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. C
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C. 15
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 12

Opal Tiling—
The Permanent Decorative Glass Co., Ltd., Lancaster..

Ore Crushing Machines—
Baxter, W. H., Leeds ... ...

Ovens—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Oxfords Manufacturers—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow ... ...

Oxides—
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Oxygen. Cylinder Valves for—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Paint Manufacturers—
Hoyle, Robson, Barnett & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne...
Parker & Lester, London, S.E. (Antimony Paint) ... 23
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Robinson, E., & Co., Ltd., City Works, Sheffield ...
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. 21
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 12

Paper Bag Makers (Home and Export)—
Higham Bros., Cone Works, Farnworth, near Bolton, Lancs.... ... ...

Paper Bags—
Smith, Stone & Knight, Ltd., Union Paper Mills, Birmingham ... ...

PAGE

Paper Makers—
Smith & McLaurin, Messrs., Ltd., Milliken Park, Scotland (Coated and Gummed Papers) ... ...
Tullis, R., & Co., Markinch, Fife ... ...

Paper Makers and Stationers (Wholesale and Export)—
Annandale, John, & Sons, Ltd., Shotley Grove, Durham ... ...
Dickinson, J., & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Ford, T. B., Loudwater, High Wycombe (Blottings)
Hodgkinson, W. S., & Co., Wells, Somerset ... ...
Hollingsworth & Co., Maidstone ... ...
Olive & Partington, Manchester ... ...

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Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ...

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Parquet Flooring—
Geary, Walker & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Patent Fuel Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

Pavement Light Lenses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Birmingham ... ...

Paving Bricks—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Pen Manufacturers—
Gillott, J., & Sons, Birmingham ... ...

Perfumers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... C

PAGE

Perfumery Materials—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... C
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A, Southwark Street, London, S.E. 1

Phosphor Bronze—
Billington & Newton, Longport, Staffs. ... ...

Photographic Process—
Platinotype Co., The, London, W.C. ... ...

Pianos, Organs, and Small Instruments—
Riley's on Constitution Hill, Birmingham ... ...

Pickles—
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading 10

Picks—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Pins (Toilet)—
Edridge, Merrett & Co., Ltd., Legge Street, Birmingham

Pistons—
Buckley, W., & Co., Millsands, Sheffield... ... ..

Plate and Bar Manufacturers—
Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby... ... ...

Plate Glass Manufacturers—
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C. 15

Plumbago—
Anglo-Italian Talc and Plumbago Mines Co., Ltd., 26, Old Hall Street, Liverpool

Poles, Telegraph—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C...

Porcelain Paint—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. 21

Portable Buildings—
Humphreys, Ltd., Knightsbridge, London, S.W. ...

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Portland Cement— PAGE
Peters Bros., 34, Victoria Street, S.W. ... ...
West Kent Portland Cement Co., Burham, Rochester, Kent ... ...

Preservative for Stone, &c.—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. 21

Printers, Publishers, and Engravers—
Colliery Guardian Co., Ltd., 49, Essex Street, Strand, W.C. 14
Sheppard & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Smily & Shaw, London, E.C.

Printing Ink Manufacturers—
Blackwell & Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Coates Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Proprietary Articles, Specialities, &c.—
Baumgartner, J. F., & Co., London, W. ("La Brillantine" Metallic Powder) 5
Dalmas, A. de St., & Co., Leicester (Medical Plaisters) 10
Henry's Calcined Magnesia (T. & W. Henry), Manchester 24
Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Co., Lincoln (Clarke's Blood Mixture).. 3
Scott & Bowne, Ltd., London E.C. (Scott's Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil)... ... 11

Provision Merchants (Wholesale and Export)—
Griffiths, McAlister & Co., Liverpool ... ...
Gunson, Geo., Sons & Co. Liverpool ... ...
MacSimon's Stores, Ltd., Canning Place, Liverpool..
Nickson, G. & J., & Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Provisions (Importers and Exporters)—
Gunson, Geo., Sons & Co., 3, Atherton Street, Liverpool

Pulley Blocks— PAGE
Godfrey, J. T., Loughborough

Pulleys—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

Pumping Engines—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Pumps—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Quarry Owners—
Freeman, J., Son & Co., London, W. ... ...
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Quilts, Covers, Toiletings, &c.—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester

Quiltings and Piques—
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Railway Appliances—
Saxby & Farmer, Ltd., Canterbury Road, London, N.W. (Railway Signals, &c.) ... ...

Railway Brass Foundry—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Heath Mill Lane, Birmingham ... ...

Railway Lamp Lenses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham

Railway Signals—
Saxby & Farmer, Ltd., London, N.W. ... ...

Rain Water Separator—
Rogers, H. J., Shottermill, Haslemere ... ...

Reducing Valves for Compressed Gases—
Scotch & Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Refrigerators— PAGE
Haslam Foundry and Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Derby ... ...
Pulsometer Engineering Co., The, Reading and London

Retorts—
Stevens, J., & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Rings and Springs—
Buckley, Wm., & Co., Millsands, Sheffield... ... ...

Rivet, Belt, and Nut Manfrs.—
Gadd, Thos., Rowley Regis, Dudley ... ...
Guest, Keen, & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...
Periam, H. W., Birmingham
Priest, B., & Sons, Oldhills, Staffs ... ...

Roof Glazing—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N. 26

Roofing (Patent)—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N. 26

Roofing Tile Machinery—
Woolliscroft. G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs. ... ...

Roofing Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Rope Manufacturers—
Piggott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Rubber Tyres—
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N. ... ...

Sacks and Bags—
Judge, T. & W., London, E.C. (Cotton) ... ...
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool ... ...

Saddlery, Harness, &c., Mfrs.—
Rawle & Son, 231 and 232, Blackfriars Road, London, S.E. ... ...

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Hobbs, Hart, & Co., Ltd., London, N. ... ...
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GENERAL DRYSALTERIES.—Albumens (Blood and Egg), Dried Blood, Horn Meal, Farinas, Starches, Dextrines, Glues for Paper-makers.

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Safety Fuse Manufacturers—
Nobel's Explosive Co., Ltd., Glasgow C

Salt—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C

Salvage and Dismantling Contractors—
Adams, John, & Sons, Broad Chare, Newcastle-on-Tyne

Sanitary Appliances—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Drain Pipes and Traps, Sanitary Earthenware, W.C. Basins, Urinals, and Washdown Closets, Enamelled Sinks) ... ...

Sanitary Paints—
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...

Sanitary Potters—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

Sauce Manufacturers—
Cocks, Chas., & Co., Ltd., Reading 10

Saw Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... ...

Scrap Iron—
Adams, John, & Sons, Broad Chare, Newcastle-on-Tyne

Screw Hooks, Screw Eyes—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

Screwing Tackle—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ... ...

Screws and Spindles—
Dodd, Joseph, & Co., Chester Works, Aston, Birmingham

Screws, Washers, Nails, &c.—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...
Periam, H. W., Birmingham

Seals—
Pryor, E. & Son, Sheffield ...

Seed Merchants—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ... 19

PAGE

Seeds—
Cooper, Taber & Co., Ltd., London 16

Separators (Electro Magnitis)—
Gaskell, A. E., & Co., Manchester ... ...

Serge—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford... ... ...
Hamlyn Bros., Ltd., Buckfastleigh, Devon ... ...
Spinner & Co., Manchester...

Sewing Machines—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee

Shaftings, Pulleys, Plummer Blocks, &c.—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

Sheep Dip (both Arsenical and Nicotine)—
Richards, G. H., 234, Borough High Street, S.E. ... ...

Sheep Deep (Nicotine)—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... C

Sheep Dip Manufacturers—
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The Chemical Union, Ltd., Ipswich ... ...

Sheep Shearing Machines—
Cooper, Wm., & Nephews, 142, Illinois Street, Chicago, and Berkhamsted, England

Sheers—
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...

Shipbuilders—
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...

Shipping Agents—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Ship Stores and Chandlery—
MacSymon's Stores, Ltd., Canning Place, Liverpool..

Ships' Berths—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Bordesley, Birmingham... ...

PAGE

Ships' Lamp Lenses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham

Shirtings—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow ... ...

Shoe Rivets—
Edridge, Merrett & Co., Ltd., Legge Street, Birmingham

Shop Fittings—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 4
Harris & Sheldon, Ltd., Stafford Street, Birmingham...

Shot (Hard and Soft)—
The Abbey Improved Chilled Shot Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne ... ...

Shovels—
Thornton, George, & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Shuttle Block Manufacturers—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool ... ...

Silk Weaving Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Sinks—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock, N.B.... ... ...

Slate Merchants and Manufrs.—
Davies Bros., Portmadoc, N. Wales ... ...
Williams, Richard, & Co., Portmadoc ... ...

Slipper Manufacturers—
Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge

Slipway Machinery—
Day, Summers, & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...

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Ogston & Tennant, Ltd., Aberdeen ... ...
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. C
Tennant, Charles, & Co., Glasgow ... ...

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Soap Manufacturers—*contd.* PAGE
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Hazlehurst Soap Works, Runcorn 5
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester (Hard and Soft Soaps)... ... ...

Soap Powders—
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Soap Stone—
Anglo-Italian Talc and Plumbago Mines Co., Ltd., 26, Old Hall Street, Liverpool

Soda—
Brunner, Mond, & Co., Northwich, Cheshire 13
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C

Spades—
Thornton, George, & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Sponge Cloths, &c.—
Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester... ...

Stamp and Punch Makers—
Pryor, Edward, & Son, Sheffield ... ...

Stationers (Manufacturing and Export)—
Dickinson, John, & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Stay Busk Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ...

Steam Boilers—
Hartley & Sugden, Halifax...

Steam Gauge—
Hodson, Wright & Wood, Halifax ... ...

Steam Pulsating Pumps—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...

Steam Saw Mills—
Fabbricotti, B., London, S.W.

Steam Traps—
Whiteley, W., & Sons, Ltd., Lockwood, Huddersfield ...

Steam Valves— PAGE
Shaw, J., Albert Works, Huddersfield ... ...

Steel Castings, Steel and Iron Forgings, &c.—
Baird, W., & Co., Glasgow ...
Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby
Fairley, J., & Sons, Birmingham ... ...
Lanarkshire Steel Co., The, Motherwell, N.B. ... ...
Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Steel and Iron Shafting, &c.—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee
Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Steel Manufacturers—
Brown, Bayley's Steel Works, Ltd., Sheffield ... ...
Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... ...
Fairley, J., & Sons, Birmingham ... ...
Lanarkshire Steel Co., The, Motherwell, N.B. ... ...
Parkgate Iron and Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham ... ...
Power, F. A., & Sons, Saltley, Birmingham ... ...
Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Steel Pen Makers—
Gillott, J., & Sons, London and Birmingham... ... ...

Steel Ropes—
Cradock, G., & Co., Wakefield

Steel Tubes—
Russell, J., & Sons, Ltd., Wednesbury ... ...

Stencil Plates—
Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield ...

Stone Breakers—
Baxter, W. H., Ltd., Leeds...

Stone, Solution for Preservation of—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. 21

Stoves—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

Strong Rooms— PAGE
Hobbs, Hart & Co., Ltd., London, N.... ... ...

Sugar Refiners—
Tate, Henry, & Sons, Ltd., London and Liverpool ... C

Sulphate of Copper—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C

Sulphate of Soda Manufacturers—
Blythe, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs. 2
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C

Sulphuric Acid Manufacturers—
Blythe, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs. 2
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith ... ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C

Sulphuric Acid Manufacturers' Retorts—
Stevens, J., & Sons, Birmingham ... ...

Surgical India Rubber Mfrs.—
Harburg and Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C. .

Surgical Instrument Mfctr.—
Harris, Joseph, Altrincham (Rubber Goods) ... ...

Syphons and Seltzogenes—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. 3

Tailors' Trimming Warehousemen—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E....

Tallow—
Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool 8

Tanks—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Tar and Rosin Distillers—
Brotherton & Co., Leeds ... 15
Robinson, E., & Co., Ltd., City Works, Sheffield ... 15

Tarpaulin Manufacturers—
Piggott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Tea Merchants—
Tower Tea Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Teak Timber—
Denny, Mott & Dickson, Ltd., 165, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C. 4

Telegraph Engineers—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C...
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Telegraph Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Helsby, Warrington ... ...

Telephones—
Telegraph Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Helsby, Warrington ... ...

Tents, Marquees and Camp Furniture—
Piggott Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Textile Engineers & Machinists—
Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Textile Machinery Manufrs.—
Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Textile Manufacturers—
Hamlyn Bros., Buckfastleigh, Devon ... ...
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E....
Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale ... ...
Spinner, E., & Co., Manchester

Tiles, Tessellated and Glazed—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Timber Merchants—
Denny, Mott & Dickson, Ltd., 165, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C... ... 4
Gradwell, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness, Lancs.

PAGE

Timber Merchants and Importers—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Liverpool .. ..
Gradwell, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness, Lancs.

Tin Boxes and Canisters—
Tinplate Decorating Co., Ltd., The, Neath ... ...

Tobacco Flavour Manufacturers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. ... C
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...

Tool Manufacturers—
Luke & Spencer, Ltd.. Broadheath, Manchester ... ...
Thornton, George, & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Towels—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester

Traction Engines—
Aveling & Porter, Ltd., Rochester ... ...

Tube Mill Machinery—
Jones, George, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

Tubes and Fittings—
Dugard Bros., Birmingham..
Russell, J., & Sons, Ltd., Wednesbury ... ...
Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

Tweeds—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E....
Platt, Jas., & Co., 77, St. Martin's Lane, W.C.... ...

Twines—
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool ... ...

Typewriter—
Yost Typewriter Co., Ltd., The, London, E.C. ... ...

PAGE

Tyre Manufacturers—
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N.... ... ...

Valves for Compressed Gases—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Varnish Manufacturers—
Blackwell & Co., Dyer's Buildings, E.C.... ... ...
Flack, Henry, London, S.E...
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E. ... ...
Palmer, W. H., & Co., 82, Old Street, E.C. ... ...
Parker & Lester, London, S.E. (Parker's Imperial Black)... 23
Robinson, E., & Co., Ltd., City Works, Sheffield ... 15
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 12

Vegetable Colours—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... C
Confectioners' Vegetable Colour and Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., The, London, N.E. 24
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. 1

Ventilators—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Bolton ...

Vinegar Makers—
Grimble & Co., Ltd., Cumberland Market, N.W. 25
Hills & Underwood, London, E.C. 10

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Piggott Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Waiter and Tray Manufacturers—
Frank Hawker Carpathian Silver Co., Ltd., 52, Spencer-street, Birmingham ... ...

Washers—
Periam, Herbert W., Ltd., Floodgate-street Works, Birmingham ... ...

Watch and Clock Manufacturers—
Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 & 34, Cockspur-street, London ... ...

Water Meters, Sluice Valves, Steam Valves and Fire Appliances—
Simpson, J., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Waterproof Manufacturers—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C...
Piggott Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Waterproof Paint Manufacturers—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. 21

Water Softeners—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading ... ...

Water Taps—
Palatine Engineering Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Weaving Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...
Whitelcy, Wm., & Sons, Lockwood, Huddersfield...

Wheels—
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N.... ... ...

Whip and Walking Stick Makers—
Narborough, F., 42 & 44, Lombard-street, Birmingham ... ...

White Lead Manufacturers—
Mersey White Lead Co., Ltd., Warrington ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London. E. 12

PAGE

Wine and Spirit Merchants—
Chaplin, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, W.C. 6
Crawford, Daniel, & Son, Ltd., Glasgow 8
Dailuaine-Talisker Distilleries, Ltd., Head Offices, 50, Wellington-street, Glasgow (Whisky from solely pure Malt) 6
Distillers Co., Ltd. (The Edinburgh "D.C.L." Whisky and Gin) 11
Hills & Underwood, London, E.C. 10
Morgan & Co., Hamburg ... 6

Wire Manufacturers—
Cradock, G., & Co., Wakefield ... ...
Dugard Bros., Birmingham (Brass and Copper) ... ...
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham (Wire Nails, Rods, Bars, Hoops, &c.) ... ...
Power, F. A., & Son, Saltley, Birmingham ... ...
Shipman, J., & Co., Attercliffe, Sheffield ... ...

Wire Rope Manufacturers—
Cradock, G., & Co., Wakefield ... ...
Lewis, Joseph, 5 & 6, Great Winchester-street, London, E.C. ... ...

Wireworkers and Weavers—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...
Power, F. A., & Son, Saltley, Birmingham ... ...

Wood Block Flooring—
Geary, Walker & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Wood Stains—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E.
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E ... ...

PAGE

Wolsey Unshrinkable Wool-Underwear—
Walker, R., & Sons, Rutland Street, Leicester ... ...

Wool Importers—
Hall, John, & Sons, Liverpool ... ...

Wool, Tops, Noils, Wastes, &c.—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford... ... ...

Woollen, Cotton, and Linen Cloths for Machinery—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury

Woollen Machinery Manufacturers—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury (Power Looms and all kinds of Weaving Machinery) ... ...

Woollen Warehousemen and Manufacturers—
Grainger & Smith, Dudley...
Hamlyn Bros., Ltd., Buckfastleigh, Devon ... ...
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E. ...
Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale ... ...
Platt, James, & Co., Woollen Merchants and General Warehousemen, London, W.C. ... ...
Spinner, E., & Co., Manchester

Worsted and Woollen Yarns—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford ... ...

Worsted Suiting Manufacturer—
Dickinson, Herbert, 14, Northumberland Street, Huddersfield ... ...

Yacht Builders—
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...

Yarn Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Zephyr Cloth Manufacturers—
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THE Board of Trade Journal

(With which is incorporated the "Imperial Institute Journal.")

Edited by the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

FEBRUARY 2, 1905.

	PAGE
OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE	196
BRITISH TRADE ABROAD (LIMA)...	205
COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE AGENTS IN THE COLONIES. ...	205
LISTS OF POSSIBLE BUYERS OF BRITISH GOODS ABROAD: BELGIUM...	205
COTTON INDUSTRY OF BRITISH INDIA	206
ESTIMATED WORLD'S WOOL PRODUCTION IN 1903	209
BRITISH TRADE AT CHEMULPO	210
PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES	211
TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS	216
SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT	226
MINERALS, METALS, AND MACHINERY	228
YARNS AND TEXTILES	230
AGRICULTURE	230
MISCELLANEOUS	234
STATISTICAL TABLES	237
GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS (BOARD OF TRADE,* FOREIGN OFFICE, COLONIAL OFFICE, &c.)	239

For list of contents in detail see p. vii. of Advertisements.

* *For list of principal publications of Board of Trade see p. v. of Advertisements.*

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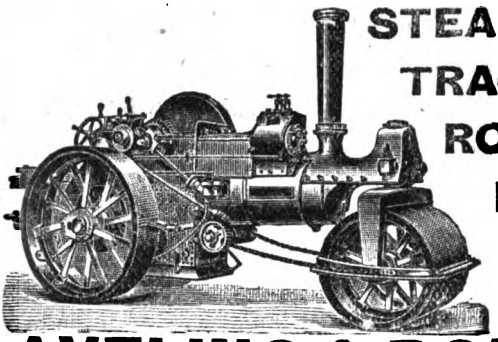

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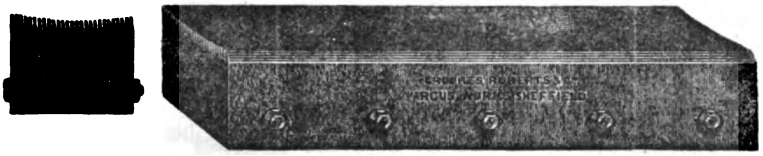

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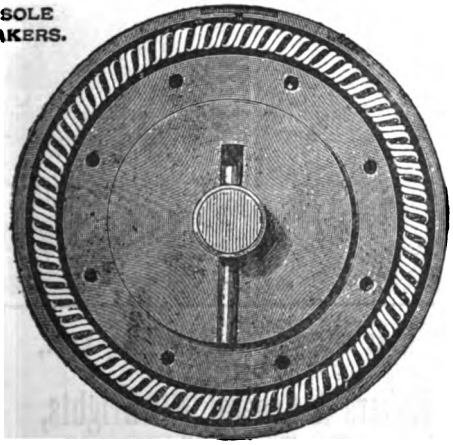

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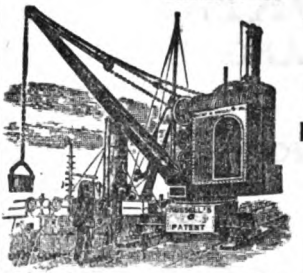

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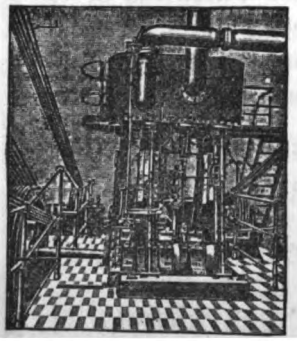

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Wholesale and Retail Prices in the United Kingdom in 1902, with comparative Statistical

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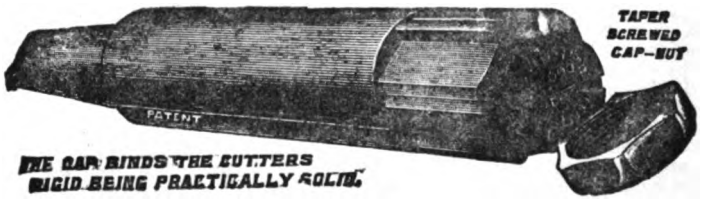

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Board of Trade Journal.

FEBRUARY 2ND, 1905.

CONTENTS.

PAGE

Openings for British Trade 196

United Kingdom.—Army Contracts Notice.

British Colonies, &c.:—

British India.—Tenders for Chains and Spiral Springs.
" " Various Materials and Stores.
" " Railway Stores.

Canada.—Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

Lagos.—Tenders for Railway Material.

Mauritius.—Opening for Public Works.

Foreign Countries:—

Openings for Trade in Norway, Belgium, Italy, Roumania, Ottoman Empire, United States of America, Mexico, Guatemala, Chile and Brazil.

Forthcoming Exhibition:—London.

British Trade Abroad (Lima) 205

Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade 205

Agents in the Colonies.

Lists of Possible Buyers of British Goods Abroad: Belgium 205

Cotton Industry of British India 206

Estimated World's Wool Production in 1903 209

British Trade at Chemulpo 210

Proposed Tariff Changes 211

France. Persia. Philippine Islands (*continued*). Japan.

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations 216

British India (*continued*). Australian Commonwealth. Cape Colony. Orange River Colony. Mauritius, Trinidad and Tobago. Germany—Cameroons. Italy. Italy—Switzerland. United States of America. Cuba. Venezuela. Colombia and San Domingo.

Shipping and Transport 226

Amended Port and Harbour Regulations at Port Natal. The Port of Zaila. New Red Sea Port. Trans-Pyrenean Railways. New S.S. Line between United States and French Channel Ports. Freight Charges from London to Basle. New S.S. Line between Fiume and Buenos Aires. Rates of Consumption Tax leviable on Goods discharged at the Port of Sulina.

Minerals, Metals, and Machinery 228

Mineral Resources of Trinidad and Cyprus. Shipbuilding in the Baltic Region in 1904. New Mining Ordinance in Mozambique. Gold and Silver Production of the United States, and Gold Production of the World in 1904.

Yarns and Textiles 230

Statistics of the Wool Trade of the United Kingdom. Silk Industry of Cyprus.

Agriculture 230

Feeding Experiments with Indian Cotton Cake. Development of Sericulture in the East Africa Protectorate and French Indo-China. Agricultural Experiments with Silk and Rubber in French West Africa. Hinton-Naudet Process for the Manufacture of Sugar.

Miscellaneous 234

Trade of the East Africa Protectorate in 1903-4. Trade of Cyprus in 1903. German Cement Industry. Law relating to Legal Tender in Commercial and Civil Transactions in Colombia.

Statistical Tables 237

Cotton Returns.
Corn Prices.
Imports of Agricultural Produce.

Government Publications 239

Board of Trade Returns and Labour Gazette. Note of Colonial Office Report, also of certain other Government Publications having a bearing upon trade issued during the week. List of Foreign Office Reports arranged geographically, also a list of Colonial Office Reports issued since the beginning of the year.

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THE

Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. XLVIII.] February 2, 1905. [No. 427.

In a notice on p. 242 will be found a statement of the objects and work of the **Commercial Intelligence Branch** of the Board of Trade.

The Branch has been moved from 50, Parliament Street to 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

"Advantage, London" is the registered telegraphic address of the Branch.

The Temporary Enquiry Office, hitherto at 49, Eastcheap, E.C., has also been moved to 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

INFORMATION ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

Information on the subjects named in the notice on the cover will be found in the following Board of Trade publications, obtainable in London upon application to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W., and their Sub-Agents, Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, at the prices named, viz.:—

1 "Board of Trade Journal," 3rd September, 1903, pp. 448-61, 5th May, 1904, p. 216, 4th August, 1904, p. 212, and 10th November, pp. 265-6, at 1*d.* per number.

2	Statistical Abstract for the United Kingdom, 51st number (Cd. 2,192), at 1*s.* 3*d.*	pp. 28/29
3		p. 12
4		pp. 176/191
5		pp. 57/157
5	Monthly Accounts relating to Trade and Navigation (25/XI.) at 1*s.*	
	Annual Statement of Trade, 1903. Vol. I. (Cd. 2,043) at 7*s.* 1*d.* ...	pp. 166 *et seq.*
	Annual Statement of Trade, 1903. Vol. II. (Cd. 2,081) at 5*s.*	pp. 177/453

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6 } Annual Abstract of Labour Statistics, } pp. 176/182
7 } 9th No. (Cd. 1,755) at 1*s.* ... } pp. 34/72

7 Report on Changes in Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour (Cd. 2,199), at 7*d.*

8 Colonial Import Duties Return (Cd. 2,185) 2*s.* 1*d.*

9 Canada (Preferential Tariff for goods from the United Kingdom), No. 310, at ½*d.*

10 Statistical Abstract for the Colonial and other Possessions of the United Kingdom, 41st No. (Cd. 1,912) 1*s.* 10*d.* pp. 38/243

10 { Trade (Colonies & the United Kingdom), No. 262, 2*d.*
Trade (Colonies and Foreign Countries) No. 110, 2*d.*

11 Foreign Import Duties Return (Cd. 2,340) at 2*s.*

12 Statistical Abstract for the principal and other foreign countries, 30th number (Cd. 2,202) at 1*s.* 6*d.* ... pp. 44/217

13 Trade between the United Kingdom and Germany (131) at 1½*d.*

14 Memorandum on the comparative Statistics of Population, Industry, and Commerce in the United Kingdom and some leading foreign countries (Cd. 1,199) at 5½*d.*

15 { British and Foreign Trade and Industry. Memoranda, Statistical Tables and Charts (Cd. 1,761) at 3*s.* 6*d.*
British and Foreign Trade and Industry (Second Series). Second Series of Memoranda, Statistical Tables and Charts (Cd. 2,337) at 3*s.* 6*d.*

16 Naval Expenditure and Mercantile Marine (Great Britain, &c.) (284) at 1*d.*

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS: WAR OFFICE.

Army Contracts Notice.

Manufacturers who may wish to be invited to tender for Army requirements should address the Secretary, War Office, by letter, stating the particular articles which they manufacture, and the names of at least two well-known firms or public bodies who have purchased from them, and are in a position to certify as to the quality of their productions.

Tenders for specified quantities are invited from time to time as required.

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Openings for British Trade.

The articles purchased include:—Anvils, bedding, bedsteads, blankets, boats and vessels (new and repairs to), boxes and chests, brushes and brooms, cables, candles, canvas and canvas goods, casks, chinaware, chemicals, clocks, cloth, copperware, cordage, cotton waste, cottons and cotton goods, covers, curry-combs, cutlery, earthenware, electrical stores, embroidery, enamelled ironware, fenders and fire-irons, flags, flannels, fleecy hosiery, furniture, fuzes, glassware, handkerchiefs (cotton), head-dresses, helves and handles, hollow-ware (wrought and cast-iron), hosiery, horse rugs, india-rubber goods, ironmongery, kitchen utensils, lamps and lanterns, linens and linen goods, mallets, oils, packing cases, paint, sacks, saddletrees, scientific instruments, sewing cotton and thread, silk, shovels, sponge cloths, soap, stoves, grates and ranges, stretchers, swingletrees, tents, timber, tinware, tools, traction plant, vehicles, wheels, wires, woodware, wood-soled shoes.

Firms whose names are already on the War Office list need not apply.

BRITISH INDIA.

Chains and Spiral Springs.

The Board of Directors of the Southern Mahratta Railway Company, Limited, are prepared to receive tenders for:—

1. Safety side chains,
2. Spiral springs for safety chains,

as per specifications and drawing which may be seen and copied at the offices of the Company, 46, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W. The charge for each specification is one guinea, which will not be returned.

Tenders must be sent in addressed to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Safety Chains," or as the case may be, not later than 12 noon on Tuesday, the 7th February.

The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

Various Materials and Stores.

The East Indian Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply and delivery of:—

1. Hematite pig iron.
2. Materials for steel foundry (Ferro-manganese, ferro-silicon, ground ganister, silica sand, &c.).
3. Brass boiler tubes.
4. Steel palisade fencing for platforms.
5. Miscellaneous tools and stores;

as per specifications to be seen at the Company's offices, Nicholas Lane, London, E.C.

Tenders are to be sent to the Secretary not later than 12 noon, marked "Tender for Pig Iron," or as the case may be, for Nos. 1 to 4, on Wednesday the 8th February, and for No. 5, on Wednesday the 15th February.

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Openings for British Trade.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

The Company reserve the right to divide the order, also to decline any tender without assigning a reason, and do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

For each specification a fee of 1*l.* 1*s.* is charged, which cannot under any circumstances be returned.

Railway Stores.

The Directors of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply of the following stores, namely:—

Railway tickets, &c.; fencing wire; galvanised buckets, pans, &c.; canvas, &c.

Specifications and forms of tender may be obtained at the Company's Offices, 48, Copthall Avenue, E.C., on payment of the fee for the specification, which payment will not be returned.

Tenders must be delivered in sealed envelopes, addressed to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Railway Tickets, &c.," or, as the case may be, not later than 11 a.m., on Thursday, the 9th February.

The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

CANADA.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following were among the recent enquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the **Canadian Government Offices, Victoria Street, S.W.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—Enquiry is made respecting Canadian provision, cheese or canned goods exporters who may contemplate the appointment of an agent in the north of Ireland.

An English firm of vinegar makers are anxious to extend their business relations with Canada.

A colonial and continental produce broker is seeking additional classes of goods in the grocery and allied trades to work on commission for Canadian houses.

An importing firm of good standing in South Australia, having a London office, are seeking to establish business relations with Canadian exporters in the first rank.

A Glasgow firm dealing extensively in wooden-ware of all kinds desire to find a responsible commission house in Montreal or Toronto able to place orders in the proper quarter for such goods, ship them, and make draft against documents.

Enquiry has been received from Cork for names of Canadian export and import houses who may desire to have a selling or buying representative in the south of Ireland.

A London firm of fruit and vegetable importers are seeking to establish business relations with Canadian shippers of apples.

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Openings for British Trade.

CANADA—*continued.*

A business man, who contemplates taking up residence in Canada, has asked to be referred to British firms who may require representation there.

Canadian Enquiries.—A manufacturers' agent in Montreal, offering good references, desires to take up the representation for Canada of a few large houses in the dry goods trade.

A London (Ontario) manufacturers' agent selling to the wholesale dry goods and jobbing trade on commission, desires to secure the representation of a few British manufacturers.

A travelling agent doing business in Manitoba, the North-west and British Columbia, wishes to obtain sole agencies for binder twine manufacturers, hardware, and woollen manufacturers.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, Victoria Street, S.W.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following trade enquiries have been received at the Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., whence further information regarding them may be obtained :—

Home Enquiries.—A firm importing woodenware and manufactures of wood of all descriptions would like to be placed in communication with Canadian manufacturers who are in a position to execute orders for woodenware, handles, wringing machine roller blocks and maple squares.

A firm of electrical engineers and contractors are willing to appoint a suitable Canadian resident agent to push the sale of their various electrical materials and appliances.

The owners of a Canadian patent for opalite tiles wish to be put into communication with importers of such material or with glass manufacturers who would undertake the manufacture of opalite tiles in Canada.

A company, manufacturing brass bedsteads of all kinds and general brass goods, wish to develop business in Canada, and are prepared to appoint a Canadian resident agent thoroughly experienced in these goods.

Canadian Enquiries.—A Canadian company dealing in lacrosse accessories of all kinds and other sporting goods would be pleased to hear from United Kingdom importers.

A manufacturers' agent from Toronto, at present in London, seeks a few agencies in hardware specialities and novelties. References supplied.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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Openings for British Trade.

LAGOS.

Railway Material.

The Crown Agents for the Colonies, acting on behalf of the Government of Lagos, invite tenders from manufacturers for the supply of—

Steel rails, fishplates, and steel sleepers for 30 miles of single track. Alternative offers are required for (*a*) 50 lb. per yard section, and (*b*) 55 lb. per yard British standard section.

Tender forms, specifications, and conditions of contract can be obtained on application to the Crown Agents, at whose office the drawings will be on view between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

A charge of 1*l.* will be made for a set of specifications, which will be returned upon application on receipt of a *bona fide* tender. Tenders to be delivered in sealed envelope addressed to the Crown Agents for the Colonies, Whitehall Gardens, S.W., and endorsed "Tenders for Permanent Way Material, Lagos Railway," not later than noon on Tuesday, 14th February, 1905.

The Crown Agents do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

MAURITIUS.

Public Works.

The Collector of Customs at Port Louis, Mauritius (Mr. F. A. Gibson), has forwarded a copy of an Ordinance (No. 31 of 1904) enacted by the Governor of Mauritius authorising the raising, by loan, of a sum not exceeding 69,500*l.* to be appropriated and applied *inter alia* to the following purposes:—

	£
Balance of cost of new dredger ...	17,000
Additional water supply	800
Long Mountain Railway	8,000 (about)
Bois Chéri Tramway...	16,000 (about)

Clause 4 provides that the Ordinance shall not come into force until the assent of the Crown has been given and notified by Proclamation.

NORWAY.

Galvanised Fence Wire: Fence Netting: Iron Fence Posts.

A despatch has been received at the Board of Trade from H.M. Consul-General at Christiania (Viscount Melville) reporting that the Norwegian State Railways invite tenders for the supply of seven-strand galvanised fence wire, fence netting, and iron fence posts. Tenders, in sealed envelopes, marked "Anbud paa Gjœrdematerialer" will be received

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Openings for British Trade.

at the Manager's Office, Christiania, up to 3 p.m. on the 25th February; they will be opened at noon on 26th February.

Further particulars and drawings may be inspected at the above-mentioned office. Drawings may be obtained from the Chief Cashier, State Railways, 1 Jernbanetorvet, Christiania, on payment of 50 öre (about 7*d.*).

BELGIUM.

Railway Construction.

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" states that the Société Nationale des Chemins de Fer Vicinaux invite tenders for the construction of a railway from Bouillon to Corbion. Tenders, in registered envelopes, addressed to "M. le Directeur Général, Société Nationale des Chemins de Fer Vicinaux, 15 rue de la Science, Brussels," will be received until the 28th February; the adjudication will take place on the 1st March. The estimated cost of the work is 201,305 fr. (about 8,052*l.*); a deposit of 20,000 fr. (about 800*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Specifications, drawings, &c., may be inspected at the above-mentioned address; a copy of the specications may be obtained on payment of 1 fr.

ITALY.

Spelter and Zinc.

The British Vice-Consul at Spezia (Mr. E. M. de Garston) forwards translation of a notice calling for tenders for the supply to the Italian Navy of spelter ingots, and bar, sheet, and block zinc to the estimated value of 97,357 lire (about 3,894*l.*), to be delivered at the Royal Arsenals at Spezia, Naples, Venice and Taranto as required.

Sealed tenders will be opened at 11 a.m. on 21st February, a deposit of 9,735 lire (about 389*l.*) being required to qualify any tender. The final date for improving on the price of the provisional adjudication by a further rebate of not less than 5 per cent. will expire on 21st March. Local representation is necessary.

The special conditions of contract may be seen at the Ministry of Marine, Rome; at the Directorates-General of the Royal Arsenals; at the Technical Offices of the Navy, Genoa; and at the principal Chambers of Commerce in Italy.

ROUMANIA.

Cigarette Paper.

According to the "Neue Hamburgische Börsen-Halle" of 28th January, tenders are invited by the Administration of Roumanian State Monopolies for the supply of cigarette paper of various kinds to the following amounts:—16,710 reams of 1,000 leaves, and 10,850 rolls of 1,560 metres.

Tenders should be addressed to the General Direction of the Administration of State Monopolies, Calea Victoriei 127, Bucharest, and should reach their destination by 10 a.m. on 3rd/16th February.

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Openings for British Trade.

OTTOMAN EMPIRE.

Hats.

The following particulars of the trade in men's hats at Constantinople are taken from the "Bulletin" of the French Chamber of Commerce in that city:—

As the fez is the obligatory headgear of orthodox Mussulmans, with the exception of students, who wear turbans, and dervishes, who wear elongated cylinders of brown felt, hats are purchased only by members of other religious bodies. Amongst these, the hat most in demand is the "bowler," which is worn even with evening dress. Next in demand come soft felt hats, knitted caps, straw hats, and cloth caps (worn chiefly by dock labourers, sailors, and children). The Turkish Customs authorities make no distinction between the hat and the fez in their statistics; but according to information furnished by members of the trade, the value of the annual importation of hats amounts to 12,000*l.* Formerly most of these came from France; but the imports from this country have been ousted to a great extent by those from the United Kingdom, and latterly by those from Italy. Austria-Hungary, Germany, Belgium, Greece, and Switzerland also command a certain amount of the trade, which is distributed as follows:—

Felt hats (annual value, 3,200*l.*) are imported from Italy, the United Kingdom, France and Austria. A few are sent from Belgium. Prices vary from about 24*s.* 2*d.* to 4*l.* a dozen.

Knitted woollen caps (annual value, 2,400*l.*) are imported from Austria, Germany, Hungary and Belgium. Prices vary from 15*s.* to 2*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.* a dozen.

Three qualities of straw hats are imported: fine, medium, and ordinary, each quality to the annual value of about 800*l.* Prices vary from 8*s.* 4*d.* to 2*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.* a dozen. Very few hats are sold at a price outside this scale; but during 1904 a limited number of Panama hats were sold at prices ranging from 8*l.* to 12*l.* a dozen. Most of the straw hats sold come from Italy, a fair number from France, the United Kingdom and Germany, and a limited quantity from Switzerland and Hungary.

The value of the cloth caps imported is estimated at 1,000*l.*, the majority from the United Kingdom; the remainder come from Italy, France, Germany and Austria. Prices vary according to style and quality; they may be said to range from 8*s.* 4*d.* to 2*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.* a dozen. Caps to the value of 1,600*l.* to 2,000*l.* are manufactured locally; these are of inferior quality, and are sold at from 5*s.* to 12*s.* 6*d.* a dozen.

Only a very few inhabitants are in the habit of wearing silk hats; these are, however, required on certain ceremonial occasions, and a few are imported from France and the United Kingdom. The former country also sends a very limited number of opera hats.

As regards conditions of payment, the Italians give five, six, or

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Openings for British Trade.

even seven months' credit, or 5 per cent. discount for cash. Most of the other countries are now willing to grant these terms; but the French importers give only three or four months' credit or 3 per cent. discount for cash. A good many Italian commercial travellers visit the country; but travellers from other countries are not often seen.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Machinery for Glass Manufactory.

H.M. Consul at Boston (Mr. W. Wyndham) reports that he has received an enquiry from persons desirous of buying machinery for a glass manufactory: grinding machinery, moulds and tools used in making hollow-ware, as well as machinery for making plate glass.

MEXICO.

Hydro-Electric Plant.

The "Diario Oficial" of Mexico of 10th January, publishes Decrees granting:—

1. The Lake Magdalena Irrigation Company permission to carry out the hydraulic works necessary for the application of a certain portion of the waters of that lake, situated in the State of Jalisco, to the purposes of irrigation and to the production of motive power.

2. Mr. Richard M. Burke an appropriation of 650 litres per second from the River Nonoava, otherwise Conchos District of Iturbide, State of Chihuahua, for the production of power.

The "Diario" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

GUATEMALA.

Roofing Material.

In response to an enquiry addressed to him on the subject, the British Commercial Agent in Guatemala (Mr. E. H. Melville) reports that the materials used for roofing in all parts of Central America at the present time are the old-fashioned red tiles and, in a few instances, corrugated iron. The former, of course, are very heavy, and in districts such as those in Guatemala, which are affected from time to time by earthquakes, a light durable roofing would be infinitely preferable to the heavier kind.

Mr. Melville adds that, at the date of writing (27th December last), there was great activity in building in the city of Guatemala. The older houses that suffered from the earthquakes in 1902 were being pulled down and more modern buildings put up in their stead, but, he says, it is useless to try to introduce an article that is only known by report. Samples should be sent, so that an experiment might be made with them and people convinced of the superiority of the new article over that now used.

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Openings for British Trade.

CHILE.

Railway Construction and Plant.

The "Diario Oficial" of Chile of the 9th December publishes Decrees, authorising:—

(1) Señores Eduardo Délano and Luis Aníbal Barrios to construct a railway from the port of Antofagasta to La Chimba and thence to the Salar del Cármen, joining the railway to Bolivia: branch lines will be constructed to connect with the Aguas Blancas railway and the projected line to Boquete.

(2) The Antofagasta, Chilé and Bolivia Railway Company to construct a railway from Mejillones to a point on the Antofagasta and Bolivia railway between kilom. 35 and 60.

Bridge Construction.

The "Diario" of the 13th December states that the Budget Commission have sanctioned the construction of a bridge over the River Maule at Banco Arena for the purposes of the railway from Talca to Constitucion.

The "Diarios" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

BRAZIL.

Railway Construction and Plant.

The "Diario Official" of Brazil of 8th January publishes a Decree authorising the construction of a railway between the towns of S. Luiz and Caxias, in the State of Maranhão.

The "Diario" of 14th January publishes a Decree granting the civil engineer, Pedro Luiz Soares de Souza, the concessionnaire of the railway from Rio Branco to British Guiana, referred to on p. 105 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 17th April, 1902, an extension of the time limit for the presentation of definite plans.

The "Diarios" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

FORTHCOMING EXHIBITION.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Indian and Colonial Exhibition at the Crystal Palace.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., have received a prospectus of the Colonial and Indian Exhibition to be held at the Crystal Palace, from 6th May to 16th September, 1905. Full particulars regarding this Exhibition may be obtained from the Commissioner, Mr. George Collins Levy, C.M.G., 14, Victoria Street, S.W., to whom applications for space should be addressed.

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BRITISH TRADE ABROAD.

Lima.—In a recent report, the Secretary of the French Legation at Lima (M. Kiefer Marchand) points out the advantages likely to accrue from the use of the permanent Industrial Exhibition established in that city. French manufacturers, he remarks, do not appear to appreciate the value of this cheap and effective method of pushing their wares.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

AGENTS IN THE COLONIES.

With reference to the notice on p. 11 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 5th January last, the Board of Trade have been notified that the following officers have been charged with the duty of receiving and answering commercial enquiries which may be addressed to them either by the Commercial Intelligence Branch or by merchants and others who may seek advice:—

British Central Africa Protectorate	Mr. J. C. Casson, Superintendent of Native Affairs, Zomba.
St. Helena	Mr. A. Hands, St. Helena.
Federated Malay States ...	Mr. A. Stuart, Registrar of Imports and Exports, Singapore.

LISTS OF POSSIBLE BUYERS OF BRITISH GOODS ABROAD.—BELGIUM.

The Board of Trade receive from time to time, from H.M. representatives in foreign countries and from their own correspondents in the Colonies, lists of dealers and importers likely to purchase British goods. These lists may be consulted by British manufacturers and traders at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

Attention is called to a revised list for Belgium, which has recently been prepared, containing names and addresses supplied by H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp and the Vice-Consuls stationed at other towns in Belgium, viz.:—Bruges, Brussels, Charleroi, Ghent, Liége, Ostend and Spa.

Amongst the classes of goods referred to in these lists are agricultural implements, alimentary products, beer, bicycles, boots and shoes, candles, china and glassware, coal, cutlery, dyes, fish, furniture, haberdashery, hardware and tools, hats, hosiery, indiarubber goods, leather, machinery, photographic goods, sanitary goods, ship chandlery, sporting rifles, stationery, textiles, tobacco and smokers' requisites, and waterproofs.

Note.—No responsibility is accepted by the Board or its correspondents or H.M. Representatives abroad in respect of the financial standing of any firms or individuals that may be named in these lists.

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COTTON INDUSTRY OF BRITISH INDIA.

The following particulars of the cotton industry of British India are extracted from a preliminary statement received at the Board of Trade from the India Office :—

At the end of 1903–04 (year ended 31st March) there were in India 204 cotton mills, containing 46,421 looms and 5,213,344 spindles. Of this number 113 were exclusively spinning mills, 5 were exclusively weaving mills, and in 86 both spinning and weaving were carried on. A daily average of 186,271 persons was employed, viz.: 118,640 men, 36,737 women, 19,159 young persons, and 11,735 children. Nine of these 204 mills, with 171,960 spindles and 1,365 looms, were closed throughout the year.

The nominal capital of the mills, as far as this information has been furnished, is Rs. 17,15,69,688, including the sterling capital of 1,067,245*l.*, of which 805,259*l.* is paid up, and of the rupee capital Rs. 12,55,23,391 is paid up. There are further sterling debentures, amounting to 80,000*l.*, and rupee debentures to the value of Rs. 1,96,61,684 issued by 39 companies. Twelve mills also out of 33 worked by private proprietary have not reported the capital employed by them, and for these 10 millions of rupees would seem to be a moderate estimate. The aggregate of the nominal capital and debentures is thus slightly in excess of 200 millions of rupees, and of this 158½ millions of rupees, or 10,500,000*l.*, is paid up.

The Bombay Presidency possesses 69 per cent. of the mills, 70 per cent. of the spindles, and 76 per cent. of the looms. In the Native States and French Territory there are 19 mills, with 3,304 looms and 267,902 spindles. Only 33 of the mills are owned otherwise than by joint-stock companies.

The industry dates from 1851, when the first mill was started. In the last 20 years the number of mills has increased by 152 per cent. and their working capacity has been proportionately augmented, the number of looms having increased by 182 per cent. and of spindles by 156 per cent.

Production of yarn.—The total production of yarn in the mills in British India is, so far as reported, as follows :—

—	Nos. 1 to 20.	Above No. 20.	Total.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
1899–1900	439,591,918	62,093,277	501,685,195
1900–01	272,772,438	70,005,109	342,777,547
1901–02	475,608,532	84,396,316	560,004,848
1902–03	463,032,381	95,779,659	558,812,040
1903–04	456,005,029	100,185,763	556,190,792

The great decline in 1900-01 was due partly to the drought in India, which impaired the purchasing power of the people at the same time that it raised the price of the raw material, and partly

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to the collapse of the markets in China which, after being overstocked with supplies from India and Japan, were prevented from operating by the serious disturbances in that country. With the passing away of these causes of depression, and a reduction in the prices of raw cotton following on larger crops, the mills resumed operations with great activity; but the price of yarn made profitable business difficult, so that several mills either closed or worked short time.

The spinning of yarn is in a large degree confined to Bombay, the mills of that province producing nearly 75 per cent. of the quantity produced in British India. Bengal produced 8 per cent., the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh about 5 per cent., Madras 5 per cent., and the Central Provinces 4·4 per cent. Elsewhere the production is as yet very limited.

A noticeable fact is the continued increase in the production of yarn of counts higher than number 20, which is as much as 100,000,000 lbs., being 18 per cent. of the whole production. In Bengal, the United Provinces, and the Punjab the mills spin hardly any yarn above number 20, yarn of that count and lower numbers representing from 94 to 99 per cent. of the whole production. In Bombay, however, the spinning of the higher counts (above 20) is 21 per cent. of the whole, in the Central Provinces it is 19 per cent., and in Madras 17 per cent. Using Egyptian and other imported cotton, the Bombay mills are now spinning in appreciable quantity yarns of No. 40 and upwards. The production of the finer yarns—Nos. 31 to 40—increased last year to about 16,250,000 lbs. from less than 12,500,000 lbs. in the two preceding years and 11,000,000 lbs. in 1900–01.

Production of woven goods.—The production of woven goods during the last five years was as follows:—

—	Grey.	Other kinds.	Total.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
1899–1900	82,028,414	13,291,944	95,320,358
1900–01	79,583,046	16,261,544	95,844,590
1901–02	96,210,170	19,755,989	115,966,159
1902–03	94,443,353	22,841,279	117,284,632
1903–04	105,741,417	26,134,809	131,876,226

The weaving mills were less affected than the spinning mills by the high price of raw cotton in 1903-04, for there was a considerable advance in the price of cloth, and both the home and the foreign demand was good. The production last year therefore increased by about 12½ per cent.

Weaving is concentrated in the Bombay mills to an even greater degree than spinning, the mills of that province producing

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about 86 per cent. of the whole quantity woven in British India. Madras and the United Provinces each produce about 4 per cent., and the Central Provinces 6 per cent. of the whole. The goods woven are mainly grey (unbleached) goods, these representing 80 per cent. of the whole production.

The following table shows the most important kinds of grey goods woven in the mills:—

—	1901–02.	1902–03.	1903–04.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Shirting and longcloths	34,654,408	32,445,119	38,033,248
Dhutis	21,673,880	22,139,024	25,518,100
T cloths, domestics, and sheetings	18,119,775	16,767,952	17,470,806
Chadars	12,541,427	13,575,269	13,712,811

The proportion of woven goods other than grey goods was highest in Madras, where last year it was nearly 64 per cent. In the Central Provinces the proportion was 29 per cent., and in Bombay about 18 per cent.

Production of yarn and woven goods in non-British Indian Territory.—To the figures given above for mills in British India may be added the following, showing the production in Berar prior to the 1st October, 1903, and in the Native States of Mysore, Indore, Baroda, Nandgaon, Bhaunagar, Hyderabad, Wadhwan, Quilon, Kishengarh, and Ujjain:—

—	1902–3.	1903–4.
	Lbs.	Lbs.
Yarn—		
Nos. 1–20	13,527,180	18,503,605
Above No. 20	3,355,040	4,064,678
Total	16,882,220	22,568,283
Woven goods—		
Grey	4,893,573	5,752,192
Other kinds	397,700	415,753
Total	5,291,273	6,167,945

The production of the five mills in Pondicherry has not been reported.

It should be noted that the information in the above article is exclusive of hand spinning and weaving.

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ESTIMATED WORLD'S WOOL PRODUCTION IN 1903.

The following table, based on an unofficial estimate by the National Association of Wool Manufacturers of Boston, United States of America, is given in a work entitled "Statistics relating to the Woollen and Worsted Trades of the United Kingdom," compiled by the Secretary of the Incorporated Chamber of Commerce at Bradford, and referred to on p. 230 :—

	lbs.	lbs.
Europe—		
Great Britain and Ireland	133,000,000	
Russia (including Poland)	361,000,000	
France	103,500,000	
Spain	102,500,000	
Germany	49,500,000	
Austria-Hungary	64,000,000	
Italy	21,500,000	
Portugal	13,500,000	
Sweden and Norway	8,000,000	
Turkey and Balkan Peninsula	67,500,000	
All other Europe	14,000,000	
		938,000,000
North America—		
United States	287,500,000	
British North America	12,000,000	
Mexico	5,000,000	
		304,500,000
South America—		
Argentine Republic	370,000,000	
Chile	7,500,000	
Brazil	1,500,000	
Uruguay	96,000,000	
Venezuela	15,000,000	
All other	20,000,000	
		510,000,000
Central America and West Indies ...	...	5,000,000
Asia—		
Russia	60,000,000	
British India	85,000,000	
Asiatic Turkey	33,000,000	
Central Asia	46,000,000	
China	35,000,000	
All other Asia	15,000,000	
		274,000,000
Australasia	...	500,000,000
Africa—		
Algeria and Tunis	30,450,000	
Egypt	3,000,000	
British South Africa	100,000,000	
All other Africa	1,000,000	
		134,450,000
Oceania	...	50,000
Total	...	2,666,000,000

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BRITISH TRADE AT CHEMULPO.

In a recent despatch to the Foreign Office, H.M. Minister and Consul-General at Seoul (Sir J. Jordan, K.C.M.G.) points out that the form in which the Customs returns in Corea are ordinarily prepared does not give the figures of the trade of each nationality and, in compiling his annual Trade Report, considerable difficulty is always experienced in arriving at an approximate estimate of the amount of British trade.

Sir John adds that, in view of the great expansion which has taken place in Corean trade during the past year, it appeared desirable that the British share in that trade should be more accurately ascertained, and, at his request, the Chief Commissioner of Customs was kind enough to have a special table drawn up, showing the share of each nationality in the import trade of Chemulpo for the month of September last. This month was selected purely at hazard, and although the total value of the trade is larger than usual, there is, according to the Chief Commissioner, no reason to believe that the period is an exceptional one so far as the relative value of the trade of the various nationalities is concerned.

The table is as follows:—

Foreign Imports at Chemulpo during September, 1904.

Countries.	Dutiable Goods.	Duty-free Goods.	Total.
	£	£	£
United Kingdom	64,428	1,289	65,717
Japan	57,304	25,678	82,982
China	20,464	401	20,865
United States of America	8,378	1,684	10,062
Germany	4,405	96	4,501
France	393	109	502
Russia	147	—	147
Sweden	64	3	67
Belgium	53	3	56
Philippines	49	—	49
Italy	28	—	28
Austria	10	—	10
Denmark	7	—	7
Totals	155,730	29,263	184,993

The result, says Sir John, is very instructive and shows that, at the premier port in Corea, the British import trade occupied the leading position. The Japanese figures are, it is true, considerably larger, but they comprise a quantity of duty-free goods in the shape of railway material, &c., which do not come within the cognizance of the Customs or form a part of the ordinary trade of the port.

H.M. Minister also encloses a detailed list of the articles and values composing the British share of the trade, and calls attention to the position occupied by Manchester goods which, in spite of the severe competition of their Japanese rivals, continue to maintain and even to improve their hold upon the Corean market. The total value of such goods imported during September, 1904, was 61,062*l.* out of a total value of British imports of 65,717*l.*

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PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES.

FRANCE.

Proposed Reduction of Import Duty on India-rubber Sheets and Threads.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy of a Bill which is now before the French Legislature, proposing the reduction of the Customs duty leviable in France on the importation of india-rubber sheets and threads. The following shows the existing and proposed new rates of duty :—

Tariff No.	Tariff Classification.		Rates of Duty per 100 kilogs. net.	
			Existing Rate.	Proposed New Rate.
			Frs. cts.	Frs. cts.
620	Sheets of india-rubber, pure, not vulcanized, and threads of vulcanized india-rubber	General Tariff	60 00	30 00
		Minimum Tariff	40 00	20 00

The minimum tariff rate is that applied to imports from the United Kingdom.

PERSIA.

Forthcoming Increase of Import Duties.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of telegraphic information from H.M. Minister at Tehran to the effect that, in view of the depreciation in the exchange value of the kran, the specific duties leviable under the Persian Tariff on imports from all countries will shortly be increased by 15 per cent., in accordance with Article VI. of the Anglo-Persian Commercial Convention of 1903.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

Customs Tariff—Proposed Changes (*continued from p.* 169 *of last week's "Journal"*).

(NOTE.—Alterations in, or additions to, the present Tariff classification are indicated by *italic* type).

Tariff No.	Articles.	Rates of Duty.		
		Present.		Proposed.
	CLASS XI.—INSTRUMENTS, MACHINERY, &C. (*continued*).			
251	All sewing machines and detached parts therefor, *except needles*...	Dols. cts. 100 kilogs. 3 00		15 % *ad val.*
252	Bicycles—			
	(*a*) Complete, except lamps	Each 5 00		25 % "
	(*b*) Detached parts and accessories thereto, including lamps	Kilog. net 0 30		
253	Velocipedes	Each 2 00		

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Proposed Tariff Changes.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Rates of Duty. Present.			Rates of Duty. Proposed.		
			Dols.	cts.		Dols.	cts.
255	Cash registers *and adding machines and detached parts therefor*	Kilog.	0	25	25 % *ad val.*		
257	Other machinery and detached parts not specially provided for—						
	(*a*) Of copper and its alloys	100 kgs. net	4	00	20 %	„	
	(*b*) Of other materials ...	„	1	00	10 %	„	
258	Coaches and berlins, new, used, or repaired—						
	(*a*) With four seats, with or without hoods ...	Each	50	00	20 %	„	
	(*b*) With two seats, with or without folding seats ...	„	35	00			
259	Omnibuses, diligences, Concord and similar coaches, new, used, or repaired	„	35	00	20 %	„	
260	Other common four-wheeled carriages, with four or more seats, new or repaired ...	„	20	00	20 %	„	
261	All other carriages not specially mentioned, new, used or repaired—						
	(*a*) With one seat	„	10	00	...		
	(*b*) With two seats ...	„	15	00	...		
	(*c*) With not more than four seats...	„	20	00	...		
	(*d*) Automobiles for passengers	„	60	00	...		
	(*e*) Automobiles for merchandise	„	60	00	...		
	All other carriages, not specially provided for, new, used or repaired, including automobiles for persons or merchandise, baby carriages, trimmed or untrimmed, and jinrikishas...	...			20 % *ad val.*		
262 (*d*)	*Cars for industrial railways*	...			15 % „		
264	Wagons	Each	7	50	Each	7	50
265	Carts *for transporting merchandise*	„	5	00	„	5	00
	(*a*) *All others, not specially provided for*				20 % *ad val.*		
266	(*a*) *Wheelbarrows, of wood*...	...			Each	0	50
	(*b*) „ *wholly of iron or steel*	...			„	1	50
	Provided, that wooden parts for any of the vehicles classified under paragraphs 258, 259, 260, 261, 264, 265 *and* 266 *shall be dutiable at the rate of* 20 *per cent. ad valorem.*						

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Proposed Tariff Changes.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Rates of Duty. Present.	Rates of Duty. Proposed.
		Dols. cts.	Dols. cts.
267	Small boats, launches, lighters, and all other water craft imported into the Philippine Islands, either set up or knocked down	15 % *ad val.*	30 % *ad val.*
	NOTE.—*The expression "imported into the Philippine Islands" shall be held to mean brought into the jurisdictional of the waters of the islands in or on another vessel, or towed therein by another vessel, as distinguished from coming into these islands under the craft's own steam, sail or other motive power.*		
	CLASS XII.—ALIMENTARY SUBSTANCES.		
276	Rice (*see* previous issue of the "Journal")		
277	Wheat, rye and barley :		
	(*b*) In flour	100 kgs. net 0 40	100 kgs. gr. 0 40
308	Whiskey, rum and gin in wood	Litre 0 35	
	(*a*) Whiskey, rum, gin, cocktails, blackberry, and ginger brandy, in bottles, flasks, demijohns, and other similar receptacles	" 0 35	Litre 0 50
	(*b*) Brandies, liqueurs, cordials, and all compound spirits not specially mentioned, in wood ...	" 0 45	
	(*c*) The same in bottles, flasks, demijohns, and other similar receptacles	" 0 45	" 0 65
314	Vinegar	100 kgs. net 0 05	" 0 02
321	Pickled vegetables and fruits of all kinds—		
	(*a*) In stone or glass ...	Kilog. net 0 10	Kilog. net 0 04
	(*b*) In wood	100 kgs. gr. 2 00	Kilog. gr. 0 015
328*a*	Tomato sauces, including catsup	Kilog. net 0 125	Kilog. net 0 05
330	Chocolate—		
	(*a*) In forms or lumps for manufacturing purposes	" 0 10	" 0 15
	(*b*) In cakes or powder for table use but not made up into bonbons *or sweetmeats of any description*	" 0 12	" 0 20
	Provided, that none of the articles classified under this paragraph shall pay a less rate of duty than 20 per cent. ad val.		

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Proposed Tariff Changes.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Rates of Duty. Present.	Rates of Duty. Proposed.
	CLASS XIII.—MISCELLANEOUS.	Dols. cts.	Dols. cts.
345	Buttons—		
	(*a*) Bone, porcelain, composition, wood, steel, iron, and similar materials	Kilog. net 1 00	Kilog. net 0 20
	(*b*) Rubber, copper and its alloys		„ 0 50
	(*c*) Mother-of-pearl and others not specially provided for, except of gold or silver, or gold or silver plated		„ 1 00
358	Cameras of which the lenses are not removable or adjustable: made of wood or of metal polished or covered with leather or imitation of leather; fitted for either plates or films, or for both; according to the largest area of plate coverable at one exposure—		
	(*a*) If such area be 20 square inches or less ...	each 0 25	20 % *ad val.*
	(*b*) More than 20 square inches and not more than 40	„ 0 50	
	(*c*) More than 40 square inches and not more than 80	„ 1 00	
	(*d*) More than 80 square inches	„ 2 00	
359	The same articles made of wood or metal, painted, varnished, shellaced or plain, and otherwise, as above indicated—		
	(*a*) If such area be 20 square inches or less ...	each 0 18	20 % *ad val.*
	(*b*) More than 20 square inches and not more than 40	„ 0 35	
	(*c*) More than 40 square inches and not more than 80	„ 0 70	
	(*d*) More than 80 square inches	„ 1 40	
360	Cameras with removable or adjustable lenses, not including the lenses; according to the largest area of plate or film covered at one exposure—		

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Proposed Tariff Changes.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Rates of Duty. Present.		Rates of Duty. Proposed.
			Dols. cts.	
	(*a*) If such area be 20 square inches or less ...	each	0 50	20 % *ad val.*
	(*b*) More than 20 square inches and not more than 40	"	1 00	
	(*c*) More than 40 square inches and not more than 80	"	2 50	
	(*d*) More than 80 square inches and not more than 120	"	3 75	
	(*e*) More than 120 square inches	"	5 00	
361	Single lenses for photographic apparatus	each	0 25	20 % *ad val.*
362	Combination lenses for same are dutiable according to diameter; if such diameter be—			
	(*a*) 1 inch or less	"	3 00	—
	(*b*) More than 1 inch and not more than 1½ ...	"	4 50	—
	(*c*) More than 1½ inch and not more than 2 ...	"	7 50	—
	(*d*) More than 2 inches and not more than 3 ...	"	15 00	—
	(*e*) More than 3 inches ...	"	30 00	—
	Combination lenses, tripods, plateholders, dry and other plates and kodak films ...	...		20 % "

JAPAN.

Proposed Increase of Import and Consumption Duties.

The "Japan Weekly Mail" for the 17th December contains particulars of certain proposals for the increase of import duties and other forms of taxation which are said to be in contemplation by the Japanese Government. So far as regards imports, the principal alterations proposed are as follows:—

(1) A consumption duty to be imposed on textiles, other than woollens (on which a consumption duty is already being levied)—this duty to be charged on home-produced as well as on imported goods, and, in the case of the latter, to take the form of a stamp tax to be paid by the retailer and not by the importing merchant;

(2) A duty to be imposed on imported rice and on silk cocoons;

(3) The import duties on certain articles upon which the rates are not fixed by commercial treaties between Japan and other Powers to be increased;

(4) The tax on beer and the sugar consumption tax to be increased.

According to telegraphic information received by the Board of Trade, through the Foreign Office, from H.M. Minister at Tokio, the increased duties referred to under (3) have been passed by the Japanese Diet, and will take effect on 1st July next.

Particulars of these alterations will be published as soon as further information has been received.

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TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

BRITISH INDIA.

Tariff Valuations.

The following further list of the general duties under the Import Tariff of British India is in continuation of that published on pp. 169–73 of last week's "Journal":—

SCHEDULE IV.—IMPORT TARIFF (*continued*).

No.	Names of Articles.	Per	Tariff Valuation.	Duty.
	METALS AND MANUFACTURES OF METALS.			
13	Hardware and cutlery, including ironmongery and plated ware, and also including machines, tools, and implements to be worked by manual or animal labour. [*Exceptions, which are free:* (i) Water-lifts, sugar-mills, oil-presses, and parts thereof, and any other machines and parts of machines ordinarily used in processes of husbandry, or for the preparation for use or for sale of the products of husbandry, which the Governor-General in Council may, by notification in the "Gazette of India," exempt; (ii.) the following agricultural implements, when constructed so that they can be worked by manual or animal power, namely, winnowers, threshers, mowing and reaping machines, elevators, seed-crushers, chaff-cutters, root-cutters, horse and bullock gears, ploughs, cultivators, scarifiers, harrows, clod-crushers, seed-drills, hay-tedders, and rakes; (iii.) the following dairy appliances, when constructed so that they can be worked by manual or animal power, namely, cream separators, milk sterilizing or pasteurizing plant, milk aerating and cooling apparatus, churns, butter dryers and butter workers; (iv.) the following articles used in the manufacture of cotton, namely, bobbins (warping), forks for looms, healds, heald cords, heald knitting needles, laces, lags and needles for dobbies, pickers (buffalo and others), picking bands, picking levers, picking sticks (over and under), reed pliers, reeds, shuttles (for power looms), springs for looms, strappings, and weft forks; (v.) box backs and swells and rough unshaped bobbin ends, when imported by or on behalf of a manufacturer or mill-owner, and certified by him to be intended exclusively for use in his mill.]	...	*ad val.*	5 %
14	Machinery, namely, prime-movers, and component parts thereof, including boilers and component parts thereof; also including locomotive and portable engines, steam-rollers, fire-engines, and other machines in which the prime-mover is not separable from the operative parts			
	Machinery (and component parts thereof), meaning machines or sets of machines to be worked by electric, steam, water, fire, or other power not being manual or animal labour, or which before being brought into use require to be fixed with reference to other moving parts; and including belting of all materials for driving machinery ...	...	...	Free.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

SCHEDULE IV.—IMPORT TARIFF—*continued.*

No.	Names of Articles.	Per	Tariff Valuation.	Duty.
	METALS, &c.—*contd.*		R. a.	
	Provided that the term does not include tools and implements to be worked by manual or animal labour, and provided also that only such articles shall be admitted as component parts of machinery as are indispensable for the working of the machinery and are, owing to their shape or to other special quality, not adapted for any other purpose.			
	Note.—Machinery and component parts thereof made of substances other than metal are included in this entry.			
15	Metals, unwrought and wrought, and articles made of metals—			
	Brass, orsidue and leaves, European ...	...	*ad val.*	5 %
	" " " " China	...	"	"
	" patent or yellow metal, sheathing, sheets, and plates.	cwt.	44 0	"
	" patent or yellow metal, sheathing, sheets, and plates (old).	"	31 0	"
	" sheets, flat or in rolls, very thin ...	"	135 0	"
	" wire	...	*ad val.*	"
	" all other sorts...	...	"	"
	Copper, bolt and bar, rolled	...	"	"
	" brazier's and sheets	cwt.	53 0	"
	" nails and composition nails... ...	...	*ad val.*	"
	" old	cwt.	42 0	"
	" pigs, tiles, ingots, cakes, bricks, and slabs.	"	50 0	"
	" sheathing, plate, and raised bottoms	"	57 0	"
	" China, white, copperware	lb.	1 2	"
	" foil or dankpana, white, 10½ in. by 4½ in.	hundred leaves	1 14	"
	" foil or dankpana, coloured, 10½ in. by 4½ in.	"	2 0	"
	" wire, including phosphor-bronze ...	...	*ad val.*	"
	" all other sorts, unmanufactured and manufactured, except current coin of the Government of India, which is free.	...	"	"
	German silver	...	"	"
	Gold bullion and coin	...	...	Free.
	" leaf	...	*ad val.*	5 %
	Iron, anchors and cables	...	"	1 %
	" angle, T, channel, other than Lowmoor or Swedish.	ton	100 0	"
	" angle, T, channel, other than Lowmoor or Swedish, if galvanised, tinned or lead-coated.	...	*ad val.*	"
	" bar, Lowmoor and similar qualities...	ton	370 0	"
	" " Swedish " " " ...	"	150 0	"
	" " " " " " nail-rod, round rod, and square, under half an inch in diameter.	"	155 0	"

(*To be continued*).

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

Regulations affecting importation of Mineral Oils and Spirits.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of a Proclamation issued in accordance with the provisions of the Customs Act of 1901, by the Governor-General of the Australian Commonwealth, under date of 16th November, 1904, notifying that the restrictions under which mineral oil and mineral spirits may be imported into the Commonwealth shall, on and after 1st April, 1905, be as follows:—

1. No mineral oil shall be imported as kerosene unless it has a flashing point of 73 deg. F. or over.

2. All mineral oil and all productions therefrom, and all admixtures containing mineral oil which has or have a flashing point of under 73 deg. F. shall, for the purposes of this Proclamation, be deemed to be mineral spirits.

3. No mineral spirits shall be imported unless contained in strong vessels so constructed as not to be likely to be broken in handling, or to become defective or insecure whilst being conveyed, or to allow the mineral spirit to escape, or to be accidentally opened, and unless such vessels shall be plainly marked with the name of their contents, "Naphtha," "Benzine," "Benzoline," or "Gasoline," or as the case may be, together with the words "Highly Inflammable."

In this Proclamation the words "flashing point" shall be taken to mean the degree of temperature at which the mineral oil or mineral spirits give off an inflammable vapour upon being tested by the "Abel-Pensky" test apparatus (described in the schedule attached to the Proclamation), or by such other method as the Minister of Customs may from time to time direct.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Postal Packages: Rebate of Duties.

With reference to the notice which appeared in the "Board of Trade Journal" for 17th December, 1903, relating to the certificates of origin for goods claiming rebate of duty under Government Notice 1,032 of 1903, when imported into the Cape of Good Hope, the Board of Trade have now received a further Government Notice (No. 1,385 of 1904) amending the previous Notice No. 1,032 above mentioned, with the effect that certificates will be waived in the case of postal packages not exceeding 10*l.* in value (in lieu of 5*l.* as heretofore), if the contents of such packages are not merchandise for sale, and provided that the packages shall have endorsed on them a certificate in the prescribed form.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ORANGE RIVER COLONY.

Import Permits for certain Articles no longer required.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of the "Government Gazette" of the Orange River Colony for 23rd December last, containing a Government Notice (No. 452 of 1904) notifying, for general information, that from 1st January, 1905, import permits will no longer be required in respect of the importation into the Orange River Colony of the following articles :—

Sheet lead; lead piping; also lead in bulk for building purposes.

MAURITIUS.

Amended Customs and Excise Duties on Wines and Spirits.

With reference to the Notice published in the "Board of Trade Journal" for 19th January last, relating to the Customs and Excise duties leviable under Ordinance No. 21 of 1904, upon wines and spirits in Mauritius, the Board of Trade have now received a further Ordinance (No. 25 of 1904), which was assented to by the Governor of Mauritius on 13th December, 1904, for the purpose of equalising and amending the Customs and Excise duties on those articles in the Colony.

The present Ordinance repeals, with effect from 1st December, 1904, the Excise duty leviable upon spirits under Ordinance No. 21 of 1904, and, at the same time, amends Ordinances Nos. 19 of 1896 and 33 of 1898, with the effect that the Excise duty now leviable upon Colonial spirits is R. 1·67 per litre of 23 deg. strength, according to Cartier's areometer, and an *additional* duty of 8 cents (heretofore 6 cents under Ordinance 33 of 1898) per litre for every degree above the said strength.

The Ordinance under notice also amends Article 1 (*a*) of Ordinance No. 50 of 1899, by increasing the *additional* duty on foreign wines, in cask, from R. 1·32 to R. 1·39 per degree of alcohol per hectolitre—the ordinary duty of R. 7·65 per hectolitre remaining unaltered.

Rates of Exchange for Assessment of *ad valorem* Duties for 1905.

A copy of a Proclamation (No. 47 of 1904) has also been received from the Government of Mauritius fixing, for 1905, "the rates of exchange at which the value of goods coming from countries in which a gold standard of currency prevails, is to be declared for the purpose of levying *ad valorem* Customs duty thereon."

The rates of exchange are the same as those adopted in previous years. These were published, in full, on p. 164 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 22nd January, 1903.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

Revised Export Duties in Aid of Immigration.

The Board of Trade have received, from the Collector of Customs at Trinidad, a copy of an Ordinance (No. 27 of 1904) providing for the imposition of revised export duties "in aid of immigration" upon various articles raised or manufactured in the Island of Trinidad, and shipped for places beyond the limits of the Colony during the year 1905.

The following statement gives, for purposes of comparison, both the export duties imposed by the present Ordinance and those which were previously in force:—

Articles.	Export Duties.	
	Old Rates.	New Rates.
	s. d.	*s. d.*
Sugar... ... ...per 1,000 lbs.	3 6	3 10
Molasses ... ...per 100 galls.	2 10	3 1
Rum ... ... "	8 6	9 4
Cocoa ... ... per 100 lbs.		
Coffee ... ... "	0 6½	0 5½
Cocoanuts ... ... per 1,000		
Copra ... ...per 1,000 lbs.	1 8	1 8

GERMANY—CAMEROONS.

Revised Customs Tariff.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a translation of a Decree issued by the Governor of the Cameroons, dated 5th October, 1904, promulgating a revised Customs Tariff for the Cameroons Protectorate.

The new Tariff, which came into force on 1st December last, is as follows:—

Tariff No.	Articles.	Rate of Duty.	
			Mks. pfg.
1	Spirituous liquors: Rum, gin, spirits, and other alcoholic liquors, neither sweetened nor mixed with a substance which prevents the determination of the alcoholic contents by means of the alcoholometer, up to 50 per cent. Tralles inclusive	Litre	0 75
	And for every 1 per cent. in excess, an additional duty of	"	0 05
2	Liqueurs and other spirituous liquors, sweetened, or mixed with substances which prevent the determination of the alcoholic contents by means of the alcoholometer	"	1 00
3	Firearms of all kinds	Each	2 50
4	Powder, common and other	Kilog.	0 50
5	Salt...	Ton	20 00
6	Tobacco, unmanufactured	Kilog.	0 50
7	Cigars	Thousand	10 00
8	Cigarettes	"	1 00
9	All other articles which are not specially declared duty free	10 % *ad val.*	

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

GERMANY—CAMEROONS—*continued.*

The list of duty-free articles includes:—All machines, tools, materials, and plant intended for making and maintaining roads, and for making, repairing, and working railways and other means of transport; live animals of all sorts, including poultry and fresh meat, and fresh and dried fish; cattle foods; rice; manure and disinfectants; methylated spirits (under certain restrictions); coal, coke, and patent fuel; building wood and all other building materials; agricultural machines and parts thereof, and agricultural implements; machines for industrial and mining operations, and for water boring, and parts thereof; transport materials of all sorts and their parts; harness; packing cases and materials therefor; seeds and living plants; ice; mineral waters; books and other printed matter; scientific instruments, medicines, bandages, &c.

The complete list may be seen by persons interested on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

ITALY.

Customs Decisions.

The following is the substance of some Decisions affecting the classification of various articles under the Customs Tariff of Italy, recently published by the Italian Ministry of Finance:—

Hat trimmings and linings, presented together with untrimmed hats, are dutiable at the appropriate rates separately from the hats.

Cotton corsets trimmed with cotton braid or cotton lace are dutiable at the (conventional) rate of 60 cts. each, under No. 129*c* of the Tariff, except in cases where their classification as *sewn articles* is more favourable. In the latter case the corsets are dutiable according to the most highly taxed material, the trimming being treated as a "material" if it covers more than one-tenth of the surface, with the addition of the "needlework" surtax of 40 per cent. provided for by No. 129*c*.

Inkstands consisting of two small porcelain pots placed in a stand of cast-iron, varnished and nickelled, are dutiable under No. 211 (*d*) 1 of the Tariff at the rate of 18 lire per 100 kilogs.

Travelling rugs consisting of two tissues, the one wool, the other common dyed cotton velvet mixed with less than 50 per cent. of wool, sewn together, and furnished with an ordinary border made of cotton ribbon, are dutiable under Nos. 121 (*a*) 3 and 128 (*b*) of the Tariff, at the rate of 185 lire per 100 kilogs., with a surtax of 40 per cent. for the sewing.

Cooking stoves of iron, furnished with a zinc plate bearing the name of an Italian firm, and not that of the manufacturer, are dutiable under No. 218 (*b*) 4 of the Tariff at the rate of 30 lire per 100 kilogs.

Sheet iron covered with tombac or imitation gilding is dutiable by assimilation under No. 218 of the Tariff as manufactures of iron, nickelled.

Pegamoided tissues are dutiable as ordinary tissues, according to kind. The presence of the pegamoid does not exclude such tissues from conventional treatment.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ITALY—SWITZERLAND.

Ratification of New Commercial Treaty.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of a despatch from H.M. Embassy at Rome, stating that the new Commercial Treaty between Italy and Switzerland, which was concluded on the 13th July, 1904, was ratified on the 28th December last.

The new Treaty comes into force in Italy on the 1st July next, and in Switzerland on the date when the new Tariff Law is put into operation. Until these dates, the stipulations of the Treaty of 1892 are maintained in force.

A statement showing the principal alterations introduced into the Italian tariff by this Treaty will be published in forthcoming issues of the "Board of Trade Journal."

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Customs Decisions.

The following is the substance of some Decisions affecting the application of the United States Customs Tariff, which have recently been issued by the Treasury Department at Washington:—

Leather gloves—cumulative duties.—The provision relative to leather gloves in paragraph 445 of the Tariff, that "in addition to the foregoing rates there shall be paid the following cumulative duties," justifies the imposition of more than one of said "cumulative duties," in addition to the rates applicable under paragraphs 439-444.

Charges for storage of merchandise detained under Pure Food Law.—The expense of the storage of imported merchandise during its detention for inspection and analysis under the so-called Pure Food Law of 3rd March, 1903, should be borne by the Government and not by the importer.

Celluloid articles—net weight.—Celluloid articles which are subject to classification under paragraph 17 of the Tariff according to weight, should be assessed for duty at the appropriate rates based on the net weight of the articles, exclusive of the paper box coverings in which they are contained, and not upon the gross weight inclusive of said coverings.

Decalcomania labels.—The provision in paragraph 400 of the Tariff for "labels," is not limited to cigar labels. Decalcomania labels printed in metal leaf are dutiable under the provision for "labels . . . printed in whole or in part in metal leaf," and not as "lithographic prints" under the same paragraph.

Legality of protest claiming higher rate.—Importers may properly file a protest against the decision of a Collector of Customs as to the rate of duty on imported merchandise, claiming it to be dutiable at a higher rate than that imposed by the Collector.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

Also the following—

Articles.	Paragraph of the Tariff under which dutiable.	Rate of Duty.
		Dols. Cts.
Lard cracklings, sometimes known as crude tankage, consisting of the residue or waste of pork-packing establishments, being a substance used only for manure...	569	Free.
Children's books with illuminated lithographed front cover, dutiable as books for children's use *containing* illuminated lithographic prints ...	400	lb. 0 08
Concentrated copper ore, as copper ore	629	Free.
Sapphires used as jewels for bearings, dutiable as precious stones	191	10 % *ad val.*
Flat envelopes.—So-called flat envelopes, which consist of pieces of paper that have been cut into shapes and sizes adapting them to be folded so as to constitute envelopes, and which are not shown to have been commercially known as envelopes at and prior to the passage of the Tariff Act of 1897, are not dutiable as "paper envelopes" under paragraph 399 but as "manufactures of paper"...	407	35 % "
Tissue paper fans used for decorating purposes, dutiable as fans	427	50 % "
So-called "feather bristles" manufactured from quills, resembling in form and appearance hog bristles, and used with hog bristles in making brushes, dutiable as an unenumerated manufactured article	Sec. 6	20 % "
Buttons made of shell, metal and rhinestone, shell being the component material of chief value, known as shell buttons, dutiable as buttons made of shell...	414	Per line / Per gross } 0 01½ and 15 % *ad val.*

CUBA.

Customs Decisions.

The following is the substance of some Decisions affecting the application of the Cuban Tariff, which have been published in recent issues of the Cuban "Gaceta Oficial":—

Ships and boats, including those of less than 1 ton, are dutiable under Nos. 232-4 of the Tariff.

Shirt collars of tissue covered on both surfaces with celluloid are dutiable under No. 299 (*b*) of the Tariff, at the rate of 1·56 dols. per kilog.

Juniper oil is dutiable under No. 101 (*b*) of the Tariff at the rate of 3·75 dols. per 100 kilogs.

Easy chairs with cane backs are dutiable under No. 171 or 172 of the Tariff, according to the description of wood of which they are made, without regard to the presence of the cane.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

CUBA—*continued.*

Hides and skins, the surface of which is not entirely smooth, but shows any manipulation whatever, such as carving, graining, stamping, embossing, &c., are dutiable under No. 194, at the rate of 25 per cent. *ad valorem.*

Bibles, Testaments, &c., are not entitled to free importation.

Opium pills, containing opium in combination with other substances, are not dutiable as "opium," under No. 81 of the Tariff, but as "pills," under No. 99, at the rate of 32½ cents per kilog.

Width of cotton tissues.—"Splits."—Cotton tissues cut into strips of 65 centimetres or less are not entitled to the benefit of the provision in No. 114 of the Tariff for "Tissues . . . . *measuring not over* 65 *centimetres in width*, and weighing 8 kilogs. or more per 100 sq. metres." Duty is to be levied on such tissues according to the general rules for the classification of tissues, under No. 114 or 115 of the Tariff, without regard to the special provision referred to.

NOTE.—The above decision is applicable to cut tissues only, and not to those called "splits," which are manufactured of a definite width.

Surtax on tissues manufactured with dyed yarns.—The surtax on tissues manufactured with dyed yarns is leviable only when the yarns are of different colours, and not when the tissue is all of one colour.

Termination of Reduced Duties for Agricultural and Sugar Machinery, and for Railway Materials.

The reductions of duty accorded to agricultural machinery, to machinery for the manufacture of sugar and brandy, and to railway plant, referred to in the notice in the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 24th October, 1901, are no longer in force. The special reduction of duty in favour of marine engines is, however, still in force.

Remission of Surtaxes on Raw Materials.

The surtaxes on certain articles, referred to in the notice which appeared in the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 3rd–24th March, 1904, are remitted in the case of the following materials for use in national industries: glass vessels; hops, barley, malt, and lupulin extract for use in brewing; phosphorus, paraffin, and wicks for use in the manufacture of candles and matches; cotton yarn for weaving; straw for hat-making; and certain kinds of fodder and bran.

It has now been decided that such articles may be imported only by the actual manufacturer, who must sign a declaration that

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

CUBA—*continued.*

the articles are required for use in his industry. The form of declaration required is given in the Cuban "Gaceta Oficial" for the 2nd December, 1904, which may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

VENEZUELA.

Duty-free Admission of certain Cereals.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a translation of a Venezuelan Decree, dated 3rd January, exempting maize, black beans, and haricot beans from all import duties until further notice.

COLOMBIA.

Increase of Import Duties.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of telegraphic information to the effect that a Decree has been issued by the Colombian Government increasing the import duties under the Colombian Tariff by 70 per cent. The tariff classification of articles is to be in accordance with that established by the Tariff of 1886.

The Decree introducing these alterations was to come into force at once.

SAN DOMINGO.

Reduction of Import Duties on Sugar and Sugared Products.

The Government of San Domingo have issued a Decree, dated 5th December, 1904, in virtue of which the duties leviable on sugar and sugared products imported into the Republic have been reduced as follows:—

		Pesos.
Refined sugar	quintal	0·50
Unrefined sugar	„	0·25
Chocolate, jams, biscuits, condensed milk, and similar products containing a considerable proportion of artificially added sugar	„	0·50

Article 2 of the Decree provides that there shall not be levied on the above-mentioned sugars and sugared products any new impost, or any surtax, local or national, exceeding 10 centavos per quintal.

NOTE.—The nominal value of the Dominican *peso* (= 100 *centavos*) is 4*s.*; the quintal = 100 lbs.

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SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

NATAL.

Amended Port and Harbour Regulations at Port Natal.

An extraordinary issue of the "Natal Government Gazette" of 31st December contains a Government Notice (No. 896 of 1904) approving amended regulations for the port and harbour of Port Natal, and cancelling all existing regulations from the date of promulgation.

The "Gazette," containing the full text of the new regulations, may be consulted at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE.

Port of Zaila.

The Acting Sub-Commissioner at Zaila (Mr. Power) in his report for 1903–4, points out that the port of Zaila is 15 hours by steamer from Aden, 16 hours from Berbera and four hours from Jibouti. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,321.)

EGYPT—SUDAN.

New Red Sea Port.

With reference to the notice on pp. 77-8 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 12th January, the "Sudan Gazette" notifies that the railway (now under construction) between the Nile and the Red Sea will be designated "The Nile—Red Sea Railway."

The port on the Red Sea, hitherto known as Sheikh El Barghut, which will be the principal terminus of the above railway on the Red Sea, will henceforth be designated "Bandar Sudan."

FRANCE—SPAIN.

Trans-Pyrenean Railways.

With reference to the notice on p. 535 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 22nd September, respecting the proposed construction of certain railway lines across the Pyrenees, the Board of Trade have now received, through the Foreign Office, a draft of the Law relating to these railways, together with a report on the subject, forwarded by H.M. Ambassador at Paris (Sir F. Bertie, G.C.M.G.). The draft and report have been submitted to the French Commission of Public Works, Railways and Ways of Communication. The cost of the French section of the two lines, which it is proposed should be constructed simultaneously within ten years after the ratification of the Convention, is estimated at 62,000,000 fr., distributed as follows:—Line from Ax-les-Thermes to Ripoll, 28,000,000 fr.; line from Oloron to Zuera, 34,000,000 fr. The cost of the French section of the line from Saint-Girons to Lerida is estimated at 27,500,000 fr. The Convention provides for the construction of this section within ten years from the completion of the Spanish section from Lerida to Sort.

The draft (in French) may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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Shipping and Transport.

FRANCE—UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

New S.S. Line between New York and Channel Ports of France.

The "Moniteur Officiel du Commerce" of 19th January states that a Company has been formed in the United States with a view to running a new line of steamers between New York and the Channel ports of France. This Company has secured the contract from an American firm for the transport of 50,000 tons per year of agricultural machinery out of a total of 250,000 tons which this firm are said to export annually. The first steamer of the new line started on the 20th December. Towards May, and during the whole of the summer, the Company will have two, and possibly three, monthly sailings.

SWITZERLAND.

Freight Charges from London to Basle.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from the British Commercial Agent in Switzerland (Mr. J. C. Milligan), notifying an error which occurred in his report for 1903 (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,314), an extract from which, respecting freight charges to Basle, was reproduced on p. 586 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 29th December.

Mr. Milligan states that the lowest rate from London to Basle is 7 fr. per 100 kilogs., the route being *viâ* Newhaven and Dieppe. The rate of 4 fr. per 100 kilogs. is from Antwerp to Basle, not from London to Basle as stated in the report.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY—ARGENTINA.

New S.S. Line between Fiume and Buenos Aires.

The "Bollettino delle Finanze" (Rome) of 22nd January, states that the Adria Shipping Company of Fiume are about to inaugurate a service of steamers between that port and Buenos Aires. Four large twin screw steamers will be employed on this service.

ROUMANIA.

Rates of Consumption Tax Leviable on Goods Discharged at the Port of Sulina.

With reference to the Return on "Continental Free Ports" (No. 344) published by order of the House of Commons in August last, the Board of Trade are now in receipt of further information respecting the rates of "consumption tax" leviable upon goods discharged at the free port of Sulina, of which particulars were given on pp. 14 and 15 of the Return in question.

A revised list of these rates, in which the additional information now obtained has been embodied, may be consulted by persons interested upon application at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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MINERALS, METALS, AND MACHINERY.

TRINIDAD.

Mineral Resources.

In the report on Trinidad and Tobago for the year 1903–4, it is stated that during the year the mineral resources of the Colony have received greater attention than heretofore. Extensive prospecting work for mineral oils in the Guayaguayare district of Mayaro have been carried on with distinctly encouraging results. The indications recently obtained in the exploitation undertaken by the Government of the coalfield at Cunapo are of a character far more satisfactory than had been anticipated, and though the lignite is of a quick-burning quality, the quantity appears to be such that it may reasonably be hoped that local coal will soon successfully compete for local purposes with the imported article. At Vistabella and Marabella, in the Naparima district, manjak has been worked during the year with some measure of success. The output of asphalt from the Pitch Lake of La Brea has surpassed all previous records.

CYPRUS.

Mineral Wealth.

In the annual report on Cyprus for 1903–4, it is stated that the Government have compiled a list of the numerous localities in Cyprus at which mines were anciently worked, and the area over which the traces of these ancient mines are found is very considerable.

It is of the utmost importance to Cyprus to develop its mineral wealth, and thus make the Island less dependent on the vicissitudes of agriculture. Offers have been received, from persons having the command of adequate capital, to prospect the mining districts and test the questions whether either the ancient mines might not be advantageously worked with modern appliances, or new mines opened. Unfortunately, adds the report, the Legislative Council decline to pass the measure modifying the Turkish law, which it is necessary to obtain in order to enable the Government to secure to the persons interested fair terms for their undertakings.

RUSSIA.

Shipbuilding in the Baltic Region in 1904.

According to the British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. Henry Cooke), the following information with reference to shipbuilding in the Baltic region during 1904 was quoted locally from the "Pri-Baltiski Krai":—

Owing to the prevailing low freights, few vessels were launched in 1904, and for the same reason only a limited number will be laid down in 1905. The total number in 1904 was 18 vessels, with a combined registered tonnage of 3,198 and total cost of

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287,820 roubles. All were classified according to the Bureau Veritas or German Lloyd's. Six were constructed on the Kourland store and 12 on the Lifland. During the 12 years from 1882 to 1904, the number of ships built in the Baltic region was 387, of 84,680 registered tons, and of a total cost of 6,900,000 roubles.

PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA.

New Mining Ordinance in Mozambique.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul at Beira (Mr. R. C. F. Greville) enclosing a translation of a Mining Ordinance published in the "Boletim Official" of the Government of the Mozambique Company. This Ordinance is now in force in the Territory of Manica and Sofala.

The translation may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m to 1 p.m.).

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Gold and Silver Production in 1904.

According to "Bradstreets" (New York) of 14th January, the production of silver in the United States, as estimated by the Director of the Mint, showed a slight falling off in 1904 as compared with the preceding year, amounting to 53,603,000 fine ounces, a decrease of 697,000 ounces as compared with the preceding year. The gold production, on the other hand, according to the preliminary figures of the Director, was valued at 84,551,300 dollars, which represented an increase of 10,959,600 dollars as compared with the output for 1903.

Gold Production of the World.

The same journal states that the gold production of the world for 1904 is estimated by several experts at about 350,000,000 dollars (70,000,000*l.*). A writer in the "Engineering and Mining Journal" places the total at 350,915,765 dollars (about 70,183,153*l.*), which represents an increase of over 24,300,000 dollars (4,860,000*l.*), as compared with that for the preceding year.

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YARNS AND TEXTILES.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Wool Trade Statistics.

The Board of Trade have received, through the courtesy of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce, a copy of a work entitled "Statistics relating to the Woollen and Worsted Trades of the United Kingdom," compiled by Mr. F. Hooper, Secretary to the Chamber. Among other interesting details, this work contains an estimate of the wool grown in the United Kingdom in 1904 (the figures for the net clip of wool being 131,963,686 lbs.); prices of some domestic wools, and the average prices of tops, during each month of 1904; comparative prices of the leading descriptions of colonial wools; prices per pound in each year from 1874 of some colonial and foreign wools; prices of yarns in Bradford in 1904.

A statement of the world's wool production in 1903, extracted from this book, will be found on p. 209 of this issue of the "Journal."

CYPRUS.

Silk Industry.

According to a report on Cyprus recently issued by the Colonial Office, the silk industry of the island is being developed, and the exports of silk cocoons rose from 32,777 okes in 1902 to 38,414 okes in 1903. This, however, does not represent all that is being done, as there is a considerable movement in forming new mulberry plantations, which will not be of full use for a few years. The conditions of the island are very favourable for this industry, and the people like it as affording employment in the season for their women and children.

Oke = 2.8 lbs., av.

AGRICULTURE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Corn Prices.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 28th January, 1905, were as follow:—

Wheat	30*s.* 6*d.*
Barley	25*s.* 1*d.*
Oats	16*s.* 7*d.*

For further particulars see p. 237.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

A statement is published on p. 238, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 28th January, 1905, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1904.

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Agriculture.

BRITISH INDIA.

Feeding Experiments with Indian Cotton Cake.

The Board of Trade have received from the India Office a copy of a report issued by the Education Committee of the County of Northumberland, on "Feeding Experiments with Indian (Bombay) cotton cakes 1902-4," which has been drawn up by Professor Gilchrist, M.Sc.

Some of the practical results of the experiments are expressed by Professor Gilchrist as follows :—

1. That Indian (Bombay) rough cotton cake, when of good quality, gives satisfactory results with stock fed indoors or on pasture, and that its high manurial value makes it a desirable manurial agent, especially for improving poor pasture. For this latter purpose it is giving good results at Cockle Park.

2. It is most desirable that cake produced from Indian cotton seed which has been damaged while being harvested, or during storage or transit, should be branded as such, and that damaged seed should not be mixed with good seed before being crushed. The Indian Government and seed crushers should combine to deal with this matter. Meantime, purchasers of this cake should always have samples examined by an expert before completing the purchase.

3. The cake produced from Indian cotton seed which has been delinted has probably a considerably higher value for feeding than ordinary Indian cotton cake. The production of cake from delinted seed is well worth the attention of seed crushers.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

Sericulture.

The Report for 1903-4 on the East Africa Protectorate contains the following reference to sericulture :—

"Experiments have been conducted during the past two years in the Kenya Province. Several hundred mulberry trees of the Japanese variety have been raised. They are evergreen, and produce three or four good crops of leaves per annum. Silkworms' eggs have been introduced from France, and the worms have flourished exceedingly, the mortality in rearing being only 1 per cent. The weavers are large and heavy, and it would appear that this industry may prove a paying one, for owing to the perennial supply of mulberry leaves, the farmer should be able to get, say, three crops of silk per annum, against one in South Europe. The silk produced has not yet been valued. Later on, if the experiment develops, it should be possible to induce some of the more intelligent natives to take up this industry."

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Agriculture.

FRANCE—INDO-CHINA.

Measures for Fostering Sericulture.

The "Dépêche Coloniale" states that in a circular recently issued by the Governor-General of Indo-China, he recommends the adoption of the following measures with a view to developing sericulture in that Colony:—

1. The abolition or diminution of taxes on land where mulberry trees are cultivated.

2. The institution of prizes for the best mulberry plantations and silkworm nurseries, more especially for mulberry growers who are also breeders of silkworms.

3. The conferring of honorary distinctions on mandarins and other natives who distinguish themselves by their efforts in fostering sericulture.

The circular further announces that an establishment for the distribution of silkworms' eggs is about to be founded at Phu-Lang-Thuong, whence selected eggs will be distributed gratuitously throughout Tonkin and Annam.

FRENCH WEST AFRICA.

Agricultural Experiments: Silk and Rubber.

In a recent despatch to the Foreign Office, H.M. Consul at Dakar (Capt. C. F. Cromie) gives some particulars of the objects to which the Department of the Inspector of Agriculture of French West Africa have lately been specially directing their attention. The following extracts are taken from this despatch:—

"The silk obtained from the cocoon of the *Attacus Bauhinia*, a moth which abounds in the district of Segu, where it feeds on the leaves of the jujube tree (*Zizyphus orthacantha*), has been experimented with.

"Some difficulty was experienced at first in obtaining a continuous thread, as they cross each other in all directions on the cocoon, but the Lyons Chamber of Commerce overcame this difficulty.

"Two hundred kilogrammes of cocoons are about to be sent to Lyons for further essays."

"Although the Brazilian Government have prohibited the export of seed of the *Hevea*, which produces Pará rubber, the Jardin Colonial at Nogent succeeded some years since in procuring some.

"Eight years ago a few seedlings were planted in the experimental garden of Camayenne, near Conakry, where they flourished and have given a satisfactory supply of good rubber.

"Last year they seeded abundantly, and more plantations were made at the Jardin Colonial, at Conakry, and also at Hann, near Dakar.

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Agriculture.

"The seedlings from the latter will, early in 1905, form the basis of new plantations in the Casamance district (Senegal); and as more seed is obtained, further plantations will be made there, and also in Lower Guinea and Lower Dahomey.

"It is hoped that before very long, extensive districts which are now comparatively worthless, will be planted with Pará rubber."

PORTUGAL—MADEIRA.

Hinton-Naudet Process for Manufacture of Sugar.

In his report on the trade of Madeira for 1903 (Foreign Office, Annual Series, 3,273), H.M. Consul (Mr. J. B. Spence) after giving some particulars of the sugar cane crop for that year goes on to say:—

"All the cane turned into sugar was manufactured by the Hinton-Naudet process, being an improvement on the Naudet process, and the results were remarkable. During the 1903 season all the juice or saccharine matter was extracted from the cane with a loss of 0·36* per cent. of the total sugar contained in the cane, and this juice was obtained in nine-tenths of its original density. This process has made quite a sensation in the sugar world, and during the 1904 season, which is just over†, planters from Trinidad, Demerara and Réunion came to Madeira to inspect it."

It is understood that the plant for the Hinton-Naudet process, which was made in Glasgow for Trinidad, is now experimentally at work on this year's crop in that island.

* Not 36 per cent. as incorrectly printed in the published report.

† Report dated 15th August, 1904.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Cotton Statistics. The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 26th January, 1905, was 87,792 and the number imported during the 4 weeks ended the 26th January was 504,394. As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 26th January, 1905, 16,737 bales and for the 4 weeks, 61,579.

For further details see p. 237.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

Trade in 1903-4. The following particulars of the trade of the East Africa Protectorate for the year ended 31st March, 1904, are extracted from the report on that Protectorate [Africa No. 15 of 1904] recently issued by the Foreign Office.

The import trade during the last two years may be summarised as follows:—

—	Year ended 31st March.	
	1903.	1904.
	£	£
Imports on behalf of the East Africa Administration	63,000	14,940
Uganda "	12,500	13,000
Uganda Railway	102,128	42,000
Traders' goods	443,032	436,947
Specie (Indian rupees)	80,000	79,000
Goods in transit	—	18,480
Total	700,660	604,367

Among the principal trade articles imported may be noted the following:—

—	1902-3.	1903-4.
	£	£
Piece-goods, cotton...	143,467*	118,539
Woollen goods		14,764
Provisions	46,613	48,975
Rice	39,780	29,255
Grain and flour	27,835	28,549
Building materials	23,936	19,936
Spirituous liquors, wines, &c.	21,824	15,782
Hardware, glassware, &c.	10,655	13,005
Coal	7,186	11,843
Tobacco	8,653	11,404

* Includes also iron, copper, brassware, and beads.

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Miscellaneous.

The following statement shows the value of the principal articles exported during the last two years :—

—	1902–3.	1903–4.
	£	£
Ivory ...	66,959	49,936
Rubber ...	10,596	13,634
Hides, horns, &c. ...	16,628	44,827
Grain...	19,534	22,025
Copra ...	15,273	11,084
Other articles ...	19,070	18,309
Total ...	148,060	159,815

The figures in the above table include the value of transit goods from the Uganda Protectorate and German East Africa, chiefly ivory and hides.

CYPRUS.

Trade in 1903.

The following table, showing the value of the trade of Cyprus (exclusive of specie) by countries during the years 1902 and 1903, is based on official figures contained in the recent report on the Island issued by the Colonial Office :—

From and to	Imports.		Exports.	
	1902.	1903.	1902.	1903.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ...	61,265	83,842	85,009	130,534
British Colonies ...	1,468	2,575	716	610
Turkey ...	167,000	96,746	40,051	37,161
Egypt ...	21,742	80,527	71,606	105,540
Austria ...	33,471	34,431	15,691	25,979
France ...	69,649	52,974	41,599	42,154
Greece...	16,168	15,265	1,076	2,096
Italy ...	14,843	21,251	6,049	7,300
Other countries ...	17,855	16,911	9,301	23,065
Totals ...	402,961	354,522	271,098	374,439

GERMANY.

Cement Industry.

With reference to the notice on p. 79 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 12th January, and to that on p. 227 of the issue for 3rd November, respecting cement production in Germany, a despatch has been received from H.M. Consul at Cologne (Mr.

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Miscellaneous.

C. A. Niessen) stating that of 68 German cement works, established as limited liability companies, only 22 were in a position to pay a dividend for 1903, 30 could make no return to their shareholders although they had not worked at a loss, whilst the remaining 16 companies had heavy losses.

The exports of Portland cement from Germany during the first eleven months of 1904 amounted to 5,255,167 metric centners, as compared with 6,469,314 metric centners in 1903, and 6,030,986 metric centners in 1902. This heavy deficiency is chiefly due to the serious falling off in shipments to the United States, which amounted to 858,095 metric centners, as compared with 2,126,352 in 1903.

COLOMBIA.

Law relating to Legal Tender in Commercial and Civil Transactions.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Minister Resident and Consul-General at Bogota (Mr. G. E. Welby), forwarding translation of a Law, which has been promulgated by the Government of Colombia, making further provisions in regard to the subject of free stipulation, in gold or silver currency, national or foreign, in all commercial or civil transactions.

Mr. Welby states that the want of such a Law has been much felt by the foreign commercial houses in Colombia, as although free stipulation has been rendered legal ever since the passing of the Currency Law of 1903, a notification of which appeared on p. 380 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 25th February, 1904, Colombian judges, while recognising the validity of contracts for foreign currency, refused in such cases to grant executive judgment. The new Law, while permitting free stipulation, provides for executive procedure in cases of non-payment, whatever may have been the currency stipulated for in the contract.

The translation may be seen on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

[For information as to issue of paper money, *see* "Board of Trade Journal" of 5th January last, p. 40.]

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STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the Week and 4 Weeks ended 26th January, 1905.

—	Week ended 26th Jan., 1905.	4 Weeks ended 26th Jan., 1905.	Week ended 26th Jan., 1905.	4 Weeks ended 26th Jan., 1905.
	Imports. (Bales.)		Exports. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American	70,933	427,818	10,736	48,159
Brazilian	1,727	5,971	128	228
East Indian	3,834	7,616	767	1,633
Egyptian	11,006	50,371	5,103	11,325
Miscellaneous	292	12,618	3	234
Total	87,792	504,394	16,737	61,579

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 28th January, 1905, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

—	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 28th January, 1905... ...	30	6	25	1	16	7
Corresponding week in—						
1898	34	10	28	0	17	6
1899	26	6	27	2	17	0
1900	25	8	25	4	16	6
1901	26	7	25	7	17	8
1902	27	4	26	7	20	2
1903	25	4	24	3	17	0
1904	26	11	22	3	15	8

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

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Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 28th January, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

—		Week ended 28th Jan., 1905.	*Corresponding Week in 1904.*
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number.	12,019	*7,693*
Sheep and lambs	"	7,899	*7,572*
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	245	*383*
Fresh Meat :—			
Beef	Cwts.	41,956	*101,657*
Mutton	"	49,174	*64,976*
Pork	"	17,258	*20,234*
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Cwts.	108,517	*110,080*
Beef	"	1,325	*4,404*
Hams	"	20,716	*29,131*
Pork	"	4,304	*4,302*
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ...	"	9,338	*10,094*
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting...	"	24,180	*19,407*
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwts.	95,306	*112,635*
Margarine	"	17,688	*19,343*
Cheese	"	30,823	*31,676*
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	6	*137*
" cream	"	108	*161*
" condensed	"	17,082	*20,152*
" preserved, other kinds...	"	8	*493*
Eggs	Grt. Hundr.	202,886	*294,759*
Poultry	Value £	28,868	*34,390*
Game	"	3,590	*3,487*
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	Cwts.	5,894	*6,134*
Lard	"	40,284	*37,267*
Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—			
Wheat	Cwts.	1,755,000	*1,678,500*
Wheat meal and flour	"	233,800	*296,000*
Barley	"	506,700	*697,900*
Oats	"	271,300	*525,300*
Peas	"	30,720	*39,980*
Beans	"	84,780	*58,950*
Maize or Indian corn	"	1,251,200	*1,052,600*
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Cwts.	98,928	*75,784*
Apricots and peaches	"	12	*70*
Bananas	Bunches.	88,044	*27,091*
Cherries	Cwts.	—	—
Currants...	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	—	—
Grapes	"	155	*66*
Lemons	"	19,458	*29,498*
Oranges	"	277,175	*210,925*
Pears	"	116	*110*
Plums	"	8	*154*
Strawberries	"	—	—
Unenumerated	"	2,923	*48*
Hay...	Tons.	1,764	*2,384*
Straw	"	3,306	*2,515*
Moss Litter*	"	1,592	—
Hops	Cwts.	1,189	*7,935*
Locust Beans	"	34,010	*11,546*
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels.	102,943	*160,145*
Potatoes	Cwts.	86,219	*254,187*
Tomatoes	"	10,418	*9,650*
Unenumerated	Value £	7,477	*10,756*
Vegetables, dried	Cwts.	4,418	*7,014*
Preserved by canning...	"	4,646	*6,521*

* Not shown in 1904.

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GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of December, 1904, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance of 1*s.* per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1903, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s.* 1*d.* for the first, and 5*s.* for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1899–1903, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade on the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appeared in the number issued in January:—State of the Labour Market in December; Changes in Wages and Hours in 1904; Relief of the Unemployed; Co-operation in 1903; Housing Problem in Canada; Irish Migratory Labourers; Industrial Census of Roumania; and Illinois Free Employment Registries.

COLONIAL OFFICE REPORT.

A report on the following British Colony has been issued by the Colonial Office since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal," viz.:—

No. 29. Miscellaneous. Results of Ceylon Mineral Survey.

OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

Foreign Import Duties, 1904. [*Cd.* 2,340]. *Price* 2*s.*

This return, which has been prepared in the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade, contains a statement of the rates of import duty, with their equivalents in English measures and currency, which are leviable in the principal European

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Government Publications.

countries, the United States, China, Japan and Persia, upon textiles, manufactures of iron, steel and other metals, earthenware, glass, leather and indiarubber wares, paper, stationery and books, paints, chemicals and numerous other articles of trade when imported from the United Kingdom. The information contained in the present return, which is issued in continuation of Cd. 1,735, has been revised up to November last, and particulars have for the first time been given in regard to the Persian tariff. A table has also been inserted showing the equivalents in English weights and currency of unit rates of duty expressed in various foreign weights and currency.

Final Report of the Royal Commission on Coal Supplies. Part I. General Report. [*Cd.* 2353.] *Price* 4*d.*

This report of the Royal Commission appointed on 21st December, 1901, deals with the following subjects:—The resources of our coalfields; the probable duration of our coal resources; possible economies (1) underground, (2) in the preparation of coal for sale, (3) in transportation from the collieries to the users in the United Kingdom, (4) in use; possible substitutes for coal (alcohol, natural gas, oil, water and windmill power, tides and peat); effect of exports of coal on British consumers and the Royal Navy; the maintenance under existing conditions of the competitive power of our coal mining industry with the coalfields of other countries.

Tables are appended showing:—(*a*) the total available coal resources of the proved coalfields of the United Kingdom; (*b*) the total coal resources of the proved coalfields of the United Kingdom—exceeding 4,000 feet in depth; (*c*) the resources of the concealed and unproved coalfields at depths less than 4,000 feet; (*d*) the output of coal in the United Kingdom, its pit-mouth value, the quantity shipped for foreign countries in the form of coal, coke, and patent fuel, the total quantity shipped, including coal shipped for the bunkers of steamers engaged in the foreign trade, the quantity remaining for home consumption, and its proportion per head of the population for the years 1870 to 1903.

Alcoholic Beverages, 1903. 345. *Price* 9*d.*

This Return, which has been prepared in the Commercial, Labour, and Statistical Department of the Board of Trade, contains a memorandum and statistical tables showing the production and consumption of alcoholic beverages (wine, beer, and spirits) in the various countries of Europe, in the United States, and in the principal British Colonies; and the revenue derived therefrom in recent years (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper No. 335, of Session 1901).

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Government Publications.

LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

THE following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since 1st January, 1905, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

No.	Place.	Price	No.	Place.	Price
	EUROPE—			**Spain:**	
	German Empire and Colonies:		623	*Mining and Metallurgical Industries of Spain in 1903*	2½*d.*
622	*German Machinery, Import and Export Trade and Industry*	1½*d.*		**AFRICA—**	
624	*Memorandum on German Cement*	½*d.*	3321	Somaliland Protectorate... ... 1903–04	3*d.*
	Italy:			**AMERICA, NORTH—**	
3320	Italy 1903	1½*d.*		**United States of America:**	
			625	*Rice Industry in the United States*	2*d.*

Treaty Series.

The following number of the Treaty Series issued since the 1st January, 1905, may be obtained from the above-mentioned source:—

No.	———	Price.
1	**WEST INDIES—** **Cuba:** Accession of Cuba to arrangements respecting false indications of origin on goods and the International Registration of Trade Marks	½*d.*

COLONIAL OFFICE REPORTS.

The following Reports relating to H.M. Colonial Possessions issued since 1st January, 1905, may be purchased from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.:—

Annual.

No.	Place.	Price.
—	Cyprus	2½*d.*

Miscellaneous.

No.	Place.	Price.
29	Ceylon. Reports on the results of the Mineral Survey in 1903–4	2½*d.*

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THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH

OF THE

BOARD OF TRADE.

The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade was established in 1899, in consequence of a report by a Departmental Committee, with a view to meet the constantly increasing demand for prompt and accurate information on commercial matters in the interests of British trade, so far as it can be met by Government action. It is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference. In addition, it is the duty of the Branch, as far as the interests of British Trade permit, to afford information in reply to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

The office is housed at No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., and (subject to the Comptroller-General of the Commercial, Statistical, and Labour Departments of the Board of Trade) is under the direction of Mr. T. Worthington. The Intelligence Branch endeavours, on application being made to it either personally or by letter, to supply information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender; Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c.

In consequence of the transfer of the Imperial Institute to the Board of Trade from the beginning of 1903, the work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Offices of the Imperial Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch is also in communication with the Imperial Institute at South Kensington, of which Professor Wyndham Dunstan, F.R.S., has been appointed director by the Board of Trade. Among the branches of work in charge of Professor Dunstan are the scientific investigation of the economic products of the British Empire with a view to their commercial utilisation, and the superintendence of the arrangement and classification of the Collection of these products which are exhibited at the Institute. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room at 73, Basinghall Street.

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch and intended for general information is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is now issued weekly at the price of 1*d*. Supplements to the "Board of Trade Journal" are issued quarterly, under the title of the "Imperial Institute Bulletin," containing information and reports bearing on the work carried out in the Imperial Institute at South Kensington.

COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT, BOARD OF TRADE.

January, 1905.

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

To Merchants, Manufacturers, and Shippers whose Advertisements appear in the "Board of Trade Journal."

(*Where no folio is given, Advertisement does not appear in this issue.*)

PAGE

Absorbent Blottings—
Tullis, R., & Co., Markinch, Fife ... ...

Adamantine Clinker (Regd.)—
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...

Admiralty Charts—
Potter, J. D., 145, Minories..

Agents (Colonial & Foreign)—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Agricultural Seeds—
Cooper, Taber & Co., 90 & 92, Southwark Street, S.E. ...
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ...

Air Compressors—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks 4

Ale, Beer, and Stout Merchants—
Daukes & Co., Strand, London

Alkali Manufacturers—
Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire ... ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Alloys—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

PAGE

Ammonia, Anhydrous, & Liquid—
Brotherton & Co., Leeds (Carbonate of Ammonia, Muriate of Ammonia, &c.)

Ammonia (Anhydrous), Valves for—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow 19

Ammunition Manufacturers—
King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham ... ...
Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Antifouling Composition for Ships—
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Anti-friction Metal—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Antimony Paint—
Parker & Lester, London, S.E.

Antiquities in Sundials—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Artists' Colours—
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

PAGE

Athletic Goods Manufacturers—
Quaife Bros. & Lilley, 313, Broad Street, Birmingham

Bags and Sacks—
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool ... ...

Baths, Porcelain, Enamelled (Cast Iron)—
Clark, T. & C., & Co., Wolverhampton ... ...

Bedding—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., South Place, Finsbury, E.C. ...

Bedsteads (Iron and Brass)—
Bott, J. T., Ltd., Glover Street, Birmingham... ...
Evered & Co., London and Birmingham ... ...
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Bordesley, Birmingham, and South Place, Finsbury, E.C.
Hoyland, John, Ltd., Birmingham and London ...

Bellows—
Brison, E., & Co., Bristol ...

Bevelled and Bent Glass—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham

PLOWRIGHT BROS., Ltd., Engineers, CHESTERFIELD.

MANUFACTURERS OF

COLLIERY ENGINES & MACHINERY of all Descriptions.

Oldest and Largest Makers of

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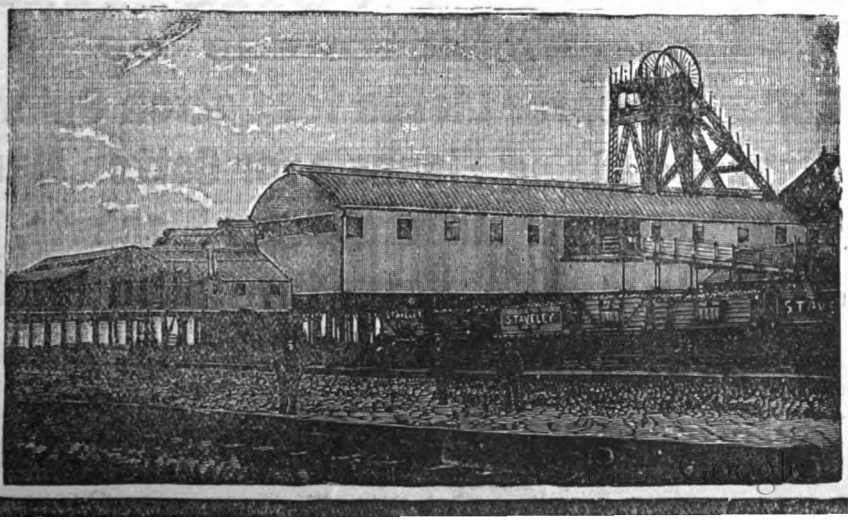

THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Billiard Table Manufacturers—
Cox & Yeman, London, S.W.
Edwards, George, London, N.E. ... ...

Binoxide of Barium—
Bessler, Waechter & Co., 18 & 19, Fenchurch Street, E.C.
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle ... ...

Bird Seeds and Foods—
Hyde, B., & Co., London, S.E.

Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, J., & Son, 58, City Road, E.C.... ... ...

Biscuit Manufacturers—
Hubbard, Walter, Partick, Glasgow. Export Agent—J. S. Morrison, Son & Jones, Peninsular Buildings, London, E.C. ... ...

Blankets—Cotton—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester.

Bleaching Powder—
Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Blue Manufacturers—
Edge, Wm., & Sons, Ltd., Bolton... ... ...

PAGE

Boiler Incrustation (Prevention and Removal of)—
The Boilerine Manufacturing Co., Old Kent Road, S.E...
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Boiler Makers—
Butterley Co. (The), Ltd., Derby 15
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton C
Garrett, R., & Son, Ltd., Leiston, R.S.O. C
Hartley & Sugden, Ltd., Halifax 4
Marriott & Graham, Govan, N.B. 8

Boiler Makers and Heating Engineers—
Riley, J. Ashton, Ltd., Manchester Road, Huddersfield

Boiler Tubes—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ... ...

Bolts, Nuts and Screws—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...
Periam, Herb. W., Birmingham (Screws, Rivets, Washers, Nails (Roofing)) 24

Bone Mill Manufacturers—
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable

PAGE

Boots and Shoes—
Lewis, C. & E., Northampton

Bottled Fruits—
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...

Brass Finishers—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury

Brassfounders—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Brass Plate Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Brass Scrap Merchants—
Adams, John, & Sons, Newcastle-on-Tyne ... ...

Bread & Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Brick & Tile Manufacturers—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Enamelled and Glazed Bricks, Glazed Wall Tiles)
Pearson, E.J. & J., Stourbridge
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Bronze Manufacturers—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Brush Manufacturers—
Brison, E., & Co., Bristol ...
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...

Bulbs—
Cooper, Taber & Co., Ltd., London ... ...

Bunting Manufacturers—
Riley, E., & Co., Providence Street Mills, Leeds ... ...

Button Manufacturers—
Smith & Wright, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

Cables and Wires—
Connolly Bros., Ltd., Blackley, Manchester 20
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. C
Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. 17
Telegraph Manufact'ng Co., Ltd., The, Helsby, Warrington ... ...

PAGE

Candle Manufacturers—
Ogston & Tennant, Ltd., Aberdeen ... ...
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Carbolic Acid—
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Carbonic Acid Gas Valves—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow 19

Carboys—
Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks ... ...

Carpets and Rugs—
Barton, J. E., & Sons, Kidderminster ... ...

Carriage Builders—
Forder & Co., Ltd., Warrant Holders to H.M. the King, Upper St. Martin's Lane, W.C.; Works, Wolverhampton ... ...

Cartridge Manufacturers—
Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Cement Manufacturers—
Peters Bros., London, S.W....
West Kent Portland Cement Co., Burham, nr. Rochester

PAGE

Charm Manufacturers—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Chemical Manufacturers—
Anglo - Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ... ...
Bessler, Waechter & Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Blythe, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs ... ...
Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., Northwich, Cheshire ...
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith ... ...
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle ... ...
Miller, Jas., Son & Co., Glasgow ... ...
The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Chemical Manure Manufacturers—
Anglo - Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ... ...
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Fison, Joseph, & Co., Ltd., Ipswich ... ...

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The fullest information on all matters will be readily granted on application to the

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Chemical Manure Manufacturers—*continued*—
Richards, G. H., 234, Borough High Street, S.E. ... ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Chemical & Physical Apparatus—
Reynolds & Branson, Ltd., Leeds ... ...

Chemists (Manufacturing)—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
Scott & Bowne, Ltd., London, E.C. (Scott's Emulsion) ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

Chilled Shot—
The Abbey Improved Chilled Shot Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne 2

Chimney Cowl Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester ... 2

Chimney Shaft, &c., Builder and Repairer—
Lewis, Joseph, 5 and 6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. 8

China Clay—
Lovering, John, & Co., St. Austell ... ...

PAGE

China Door Furniture Mnfrs.—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C...

China Electrical Fittings—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C...

China Manufacturers—
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...
Lovering, John, & Co., St. Austell, Cornwall ... ...

Chronometers—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....
Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 and 34, Cockspur Street, London... ...

Clocks and Watches—
Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 and 34, Cockspur Street, London... ...
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...

Cloth Finishing Machines—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee C

Clothing (Fustian)—
Brown, R. B., & Sons, Hebden Bridge... ... ...

Clothing Manufacturers (Fustian)—
Bedman Bros., Hebden Bridge

Clothing and Woollen Mnfrs.—
Grainger & Smith, Dudley ...

PAGE

Cloths for Machinery—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury 10

Clutch Manufacturers—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks 4

Coal and Coke—
Cannock Chase Colliery Co., Ltd., Birmingham ... ...
Cory Bros., & Co., Ltd., Cardiff ... ...
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. ...
Wharncliffe Woodmoor Colliery Co., Ltd., Barnsley...
Wigan Coal and Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan ... ...

Coal Depot Proprietors—
Cory Bros. & Co., Cardiff ...
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. ...

Coal Screening Plant—
Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield 9

Coatings—Cotton—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester

Cocoa and Chocolate Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Coffee Mill Manufacturers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Colliery Engines—
Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield 9

Colliery Owners—
Cannock Chase Colliery Co., The, Ltd., Birmingham ...
Cory Bros. & Co., Cardiff ...
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. ...
Wharncliffe Woodmoor Colliery Co., Ltd., Barnsley...

Colour Manufacturers—
Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen...
Levinstein, Ltd., Manchester
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C.
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Composition for Bottoms of Ships—
Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen...
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...

Compressed Gases (Fittings for)—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow 19

Concertinas (English)—
Lachenal & Co., Little James Street, W.C. ... ...

Confectioners—
Craven, M. A., & Son, Ebor Confectionery Works, York

Confectioners' Colours, Essences, &c.—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours and Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., Hackney Wick, N.E. ... ...
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

Confectioners (Manufacturing, Wholesale and Export)—
Craven, M. A., & Son, Ebor Confectionery Works, York

PAGE

Coping and Paving Bricks—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Copper Tape, Wire Rope, &c.—
Connolly Bros., Ltd., Blackley, Manchester 20
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. C

Corks—
Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks ... ...

Cotton Bagging—
Judge, T. & W., London, S.E.

Cotton Goods—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow ... ...
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury
Spinner, E., & Co., Manchester ... ...

Cotton Waste—
Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester... ... C

Cranes, Crab-Winches—
Russell, George, & Co., Motherwell, N.B. ... ...

Creosote—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Damp Wall Compositions—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E.

Decklights and Porthole Glasses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Birmingham ... ...

Decorated Tin Plates—
The Tinplate Decorating Co., Ltd., Neath ... ...

Decorative Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Delta Metal Manufacturers—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Disinfectants—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... .

PAGE

Disintegrators—
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable... ... ...
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ... ...

Distillers—
Crawford, Daniel, & Son, Ltd., Glasgow ... ...
Dailuaine - Talisker Distilleries, Ltd., Carron, Strathspey ... ...
Distillers Co., Ltd., The, Edinburgh ... ...

Docks (Floating) Caissons, &c.—
Cardiff Railway Co., The, Bute Docks, Cardiff; London Office, 22A, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W. 11
Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Co., Wyre Dock, Fleetwood ... ...

Door Furniture—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C...

Drilling Machines—
Northern Engineering Co., Ltd., King's Cross, near Halifax 6

Drills—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester.

Dry Soap—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Dye Merchants—
Edge, Wm., Sons & Co., Bolton... ... ...

Edge Tools—
Thornton, G., & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Electrical Fittings (China)—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C....

Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and Contractors—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C....
Gaskell, A. E., & Co., Manchester ... ...
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. C

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and Contractors— PAGE
continued—
Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. 17
Lewis, Joseph, 5-6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. 8

Electric Bells—
Wright, Archibald J., Ltd., 318, Upper St., London, N.

Electric Light Fittings—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C....

Electric Novelties—
Wright, Archibald J., Ltd., 318, Upper St., London, N.

Electrical Screws (Iron, Steel or Brass)—
Acme Lathe Co., Ltd., The, Ardwick, Manchester ... C

Emery and Corundum Wheel Manufacturers—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, near Manchester ... 23

Emery and Glass Cloth—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...

Emery and Glass Paper—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...

Emery Grindg. Machine Mkrs.—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester 23

Emery Manufacturers—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (Emery Wheel and Corundum Wheel Manufacturers) ... 23

Enamel Colours—
Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen...

Enamelled Fire Clay Sinks— PAGE
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

Encaustic Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Sons, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs... ...

Engine Cleaning Waste—
Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester... ... C

Engineers—
Northern Engineering Co., Halifax 6

Engineers (Boilers)—
Riley, J. Ashton, Ltd., Manchester Road, Huddersfield

Engineers' Ironfounders—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee (Machine Moulded Wheels) C
Whittingham & Porter, Hull
Wigan Coal and Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan ... ...
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorkhouse 4

Engineers' Oil Cans—
Kaye, Joseph, & Sons, Ltd., Leeds 18

Engineers' Stores—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Engineers' Tool Makers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield 3
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ... ...

Engineers and Millwrights—
General—
Aveling & Porter, Rochester (Locomotives, Road Rollers, &c.) C
Baird, W., & Co., Glasgow (Pig Iron, Coal, Coke, &c.) ...
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...
Burrell, C., & Sons, Ltd., Thetford (Locomotives, Steam Rollers, Traction Engines) ... ...
Chidlaw, Robert, Manchester
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton C
Garrett, R., & Sons, Leiston, Suffolk C

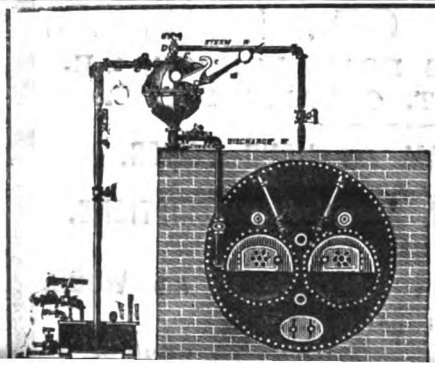
Engineers and Millwrights— PAGE
General—continued—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N.
Howorth, J., & Co., Farnworth, Manchester 2
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (various forms of Engineers' Grinding and Polishing Machinery) 23
Marriott & Graham, Govan, Glasgow (Boiler Makers)... 8
Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield 9
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee C
Russell, G., & Co., Motherwell, N.B. 4
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. 1
Spencer, Moulton & Co., Ltd., Bradford-on-Avon, Wilts... 8
Whiteley, William, & Sons, Lockwood, Huddersfield... 14
Whittingham & Porter, Hull
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorkshire 4

Engine Packings—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Engine-cleaning Waste—
Jones, W. C., Ltd., Manchester C

Engine Roll Bars—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Sheffield 3

Essence Manufacturers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours & Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., The, London, N.E.
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. ... ...
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark-street, London, S.E. ... ...



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PAGE

Essences, &c.—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

Essential Oils—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

Exhibition Agents—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn... 2

Exhibition Fitters—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Fancy Goods, Dealers in, Importers, Warehousemen and Manufacturers—
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...

Fancywood Merchants—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool ... ...

Fan Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester ... 2

Feeding Stuffs (for Cattle & Sheep)—
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B. ... ...

Felts (Paper Makers' Machine)—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury 10

Fencing (Steel and Iron)—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

File Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield 3

Filter Manufacturers—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...

Fire Bricks—
Calder Fireclay Co., The, Coatbridge... ... ...
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

PAGE

Fire Bricks—*continued*—
King Bros., Stourbridge ...
Pearson, E. J. & J., Stourbridge
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...

Fire Clay—
King Bros., Stourbridge ...
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...

Fire Clay Goods—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Sinks) ... ...

Flag and Banner Manufacturers—
Piggott Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Flannel Manufacturers—
Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale ... ...
Spinner & Co., Manchester...

Flour Mill Engineers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Flour Millers—
Appleby, Josh., & Sons, Ltd., Liverpool ... ...
Vernon, W., & Sons, Liverpool

Forks—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham 18

Forwarding Agents—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., 38, Lime Street, E.C. ... ...

French Chalk—
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Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
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London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

Furniture Trade Printers—
Smiley & Shaw, London, E.C.

Fustian Clothing Manufacturers—
Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge

PAGE

Fustian (Piece Goods)—
Moss Bros. (Hebden Bridge), Ltd. ... ...

Galvanized Iron Manufacturers—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Galvanized Wire Netting—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

Garden Adornments—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

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Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

Garden Requisite Manufacturer—
Richards, G. H., 234, Borough High Street, S.E. ... ...

Gas Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Manchester 16

Gas Furnaces—
Cannington, Shaw & Co., St. Helens, Lancashire ... ...

Gas Governors—
Shaw, Joseph, Huddersfield..

Gas-Tight Motors—
Hodson Wright & Wood, Halifax ... ...

Gates, Railings, and Hurdles—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

Gauge Glasses—
Butterworth Bros., Newton Heath, Manchester ... ...
Tomey & Sons, Perth C
Tomey, Joseph, & Sons, Messrs., Ltd., Manor Glass Works, Aston, Birmingham

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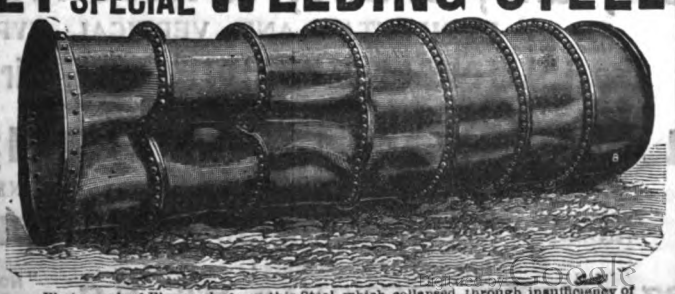

Photograph of Flue made from this Steel, which collapsed, through insufficiency of Water, without explosion.

THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

General Export Merchants—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E....

Gin Distillers—
Distillers Co., Ltd., The, Edinburgh... ... ...
Hills & Underwood, London, E.C. ... ...

Girders (Iron and Steel)—
Scott, Walter, Ltd., Leeds ...

Glass and Emery Paper—
London Emery Works Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Glass Bottles—
Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks ... ...
Cannington, Shaw & Co., Ltd., St. Helens ... ...

Glass Case Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Glass Manufacturers—
Robinson, J. B., 31, Moor Lane, E.C. ... ...
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Glass Works—
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Glazed Bricks—
Woolliscroft, G., & Sons, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Glazed Fire Clay Sinks—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

Glaziers' Diamonds—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Glues—
The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan ... 2

Glycerine—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Golf Balls—
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ("Melfort" and "Henley")... C

PAGE

Grain Cleaning Machinery—
Boby, Robt., Ltd., Bury St. Edmunds ... ...

Granite Merchants—
Freeman, John, Sons & Co., Ltd., Penryn, Cornwall (Engineering and Architectural) ... ...

Grease Manufacturers—
Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Grinding Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable ... ...

Grinding & Polishing Machry.—
London Emery Works Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (Makers of various forms of)... ... 23

Guano Manufacturers—
Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ... ...

Gummed Paper—
Jones, S., & Co., 56, Carter Lane, St. Paul's, E.C. ...

Hammers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield 3

Hams and Bacon—
Nickson, G. & J., & Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Hand Looms—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Hardwood Merchants—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool ... ...

Hat Manufacturers—
Christy & Co., London, E.C.

Heating & Ventilating Engineers—
Hartley & Sugden, Halifax (Boilers) 4
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. 1

PAGE

Hoes—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham 18
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Holloware—
Asb, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Hop Commissioners—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ...

Hose—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Hose-Pipe Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Hosiery—
Walker, R., & Sons, Rutland Street, Leicester ... ...

Hosiery & Finishing Machnry.—
Berridge, I. L., & Co., Leicester (Sole Proprietors Griswold Knitters) ... ...

Hosiery Yarns—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford ... ...

Humidifier Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester... 2

Hydraulic Engineers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Hydraulic Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ... ...

Hydraulic Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Ice Machine Manufacturers—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...

Incandescent Lamps—
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. C
Hooper's Telegraph & Indiarubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. 17

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TELEPHONE—308 BANK.

THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

India-rubber Goods—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C...

India-rubber Manufacturers—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C..
Harris, Joseph, Altrincham (Advertising Balloons, Squeakers, and Rubber Surgical Appliances) ...
India-Rubber, Gutta-Percha & Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Injectors—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Ink Manufacturers—
Blackwell & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Inkstands—
Darke, E., 14a, Gt. Marlborough Street, W. ... ...

Insecticides (Horticultural)—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. ... ...

Insulators—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C. ..

Iron Buildings—
Ash, J., & Son, Rea Street, South Birmingham ... ...
Humphreys, Ltd., Knightsbridge, London, S.W. ...

Iron Plate Workers—
Ash, J., & Son, Rea Street, South Birmingham ... ...

Iron Safes—
Ratner Safe Co., Ltd., Hancock Road, Bow, E. ... ...

Ironfounders—
Roberts, J. & S., Ltd., West Bromwich ... ...
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee C
Saxby & Farmer, Canterbury Road, London, N.W. ... C
Whittingham & Porter, Hull
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks 4

PAGE

Ironmasters—
Baird, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Gartsherrie, N.B. ... ...
Parkgate Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham ... ...
Whiteley & Sons, Ltd., Huddersfield 14

Ironstone Adamant Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs. ... ...

Jute Weaving Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Knitting Machine Builders—
Stibbe, G., & Co., Leicester...
Harrison Patent Knitting Machine Co., Ltd., 227, Upper Brook Street, Manchester ... ...

Lacquer Manufacturers—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E...
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E. ... ...
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Lamp Manufacturers—
Bladon, T. E., 99 and 100, Northwood Street, Birmingham; London address, 4, Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, E.C. ... ...

Lathes (Turning, Polishing, &c.)—
Fabricotti, B., London, S.W..
Northern Engineering Co., Ltd., King's Cross, near Halifax 6

Launch Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Patricroft, Manchester ... 16

Launch Oil Engines—
The Seal Motor Co., Hammersmith, London ... ...

Lead Glazing—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N. ... ...

Lead Manufacturers—
Hall, W., Winstanley Road, Battersea, S.W.... ... ...

Leather Belting (Link)—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

PAGE

Leather Reviver—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E.

Leggings and Gaiters—
Wallace, Bailey & Wilkins, Bermondsey, London, S.E.

Lens Manufacturers for Ships and Railway Lamps—
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Letter Cutters—
Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield ...

Lifts—
Clark, Bunnett, & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. 13
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

Lightning Conductor Manufacturer and Erector—
Lewis, Joseph, 5 & 6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. 8

Lime Juice—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. ... ...

Liquorice Wafers—
Hillabys', Ltd., Pontefract...

Lithographic Varnish—
Coates Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Locomotive Engine Builders—
Aveling & Porter, Ltd., Rochester C
Burrell, C., & Sons, Ltd., Thetford ... ...
Garrett, R., & Sons, Leiston, Suffolk C

Looking Glass Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2
Robinson, J. B., 31, Moor Lane, E.C.... ... ...

Loom Makers—
Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee C

Lubricants—
Bremner, J. A., & Co., Manchester ... ...
Fleming, A. B., & Co.. Edinburgh ... ...
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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Lubricants—*continued*— PAGE
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Lubricating Oils—
Light, Jas., & Son, Ltd., 9, Rumford Street, Liverpool
Nobel Bros., Petersburg ...
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Lubricators—
Nobel Bros., Petersburg ...

Machine Felts—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury 10

Machine Knives, Cutters & Blades—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... 3

Machine Makers—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee C

Machine Screws, Bolts, Nuts, &c.—
Acme Lathe Co., Ltd., The, Ardwick, Manchester ... C

Magnesia—
Henry, T. & W., East Street, St. Peters, Manchester ...

Manchester Warehousemen—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E. ...

Manures (Chemical)—
Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ... ...
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith ... ...
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle ... ...
Thomson, Wm., & Sons, Ltd., Clovenfords by Galashiels (for Vines & Plants) ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Marble and Granite Merchant and Importer—
Fabbricotti, B., Pimlico, London, S.W. ... ...

Marble Manufacturers of all Descriptions—
Fabbricotti, B., Pimlico, London, S.W. ... ...

Mattresses (Woven Wire)— PAGE
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Hay Mill, Birmingham ... ...
Lane, George, & Sons, Brueton Street, Birmingham ...

Medical Plasters—
De St. Dalmas, A., & Co., Leicester ... ...

Metal Merchants and Manfrs.—
Billington & Newton, Longport, Staffs. ... ...
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Dugard Bros., Birmingham...
King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

Metal Polish—
Baumgartner, J. F., & Co., London, W. ... ...

Military and Naval Ornaments—
Narborough, F., 40, 42, 44, Lombard Street, Birmingham ... ...
Wilkins, T. B., 52, Clement Street, Birmingham... ...

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Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C....

Mosaic and Tiles Decoration—
Geary, Walker & Co., 11, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C. 22
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs. ... ...

Motors (Gas Tight)—
Hodgson, Wright & Wood, Halifax ... ...

Mushroom Ketchup— PAGE
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...

Musical Instrument Manfrs.—
Lachenal & Co., London, W.C.

Mustard Seed—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ...

Nails—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

Name Plate Makers—
Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield ...

Newspapers—
Colliery Guardian, 49, Essex Street, Strand, W.C. ... 12

Night Lights—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Oar Manufacturers—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool ... ...

Office Fittings—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Oilcake (Linseed and Cotton)—
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B. ... ...

Oil Cans—
Bladon, T. E., 99 & 100, Northwood Street, Birmingham; London address, 4, Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, E.C. ... ...
Kaye, Joseph, & Sons, Ltd., Leeds 18

Oil Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Manchester 16
The Seal Motor Co., Hammersmith, London ... ...

Oil Mill Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

Oil Refiners, Distillers, & Mfrs.—
Bremner, Jno. A., & Co., Manchester ... ...
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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Oil Refiners, Distillers, and Manufacturers—*continued*—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C. ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Opal Tiling—
The Permanent Decorative Glass Co., Ltd., Lancaster..

Ore Crushing Machines—
Baxter, W. H., Leeds ... ...

Ovens—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Oxfords Manufacturers—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow ... ...

Oxides—
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Oxygen, Cylinder Valves for—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow 19

Paint Manufacturers—
Hoyle, Robson, Barnett & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne...
Parker & Lester, London, S.E. (Antimony Paint) ...
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Robinson, E., & Co., Ltd., City Works, Sheffield ...
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Paper Bag Makers (Home and Export)—
Higham Bros., Cone Works, Farnworth, near Bolton, Lancs.... ... ...

Paper Bags—
Smith, Stone & Knight, Ltd., Union Paper Mills, Birmingham ... ...

PAGE

Paper Makers—
Smith & McLaurin, Messrs., Ltd., Milliken Park, Scotland (Coated and Gummed Papers) ... ...
Tullis, R., & Co., Markinch, Fife ... ...

Paper Makers and Stationers (Wholesale and Export)—
Annandale, John, & Sons, Ltd., Shotley Grove, Durham ... ...
Dickinson, J., & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Ford, T. B., Loudwater, High Wycombe (Blottings)
Hodgkinson, W. S., & Co., Wells, Somerset ... ...
Hollingsworth & Co., Maidstone ... ...
Olive & Partington, Manchester ... ...

Paper Makers' Steel and Bronze Tools—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... 3

Paper Makers' Tools—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Sheffield 3

Parquet Flooring—
Geary, Walker & Co., London, E.C. 22

Patent Fuel Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

Pavement Light Lenses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Birmingham ... ...

Paving Bricks—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Pen Manufacturers—
Gillott, J., & Sons, Birmingham ... ...

Perfumers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E....

PAGE

Perfumery Materials—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E....
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

Phosphor Bronze—
Billington & Newton, Longport, Staffs. ... ...

Photographic Process—
Platinotype Co., The, London, W.C. ... ...

Pianos, Organs, and Small Instruments—
Riley's on Constitution Hill, Birmingham ... ...

Pickles—
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...

Picks—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham 18

Pins (Toilet)—
Edridge, Merrett & Co., Ltd., Legge Street, Birmingham

Pistons—
Buckley, W., & Co., Millsands, Sheffield 3

Plate and Bar Manufacturers—
Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby 15

Plate Glass Manufacturers—
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C.

Plumbago—
Anglo-Italian Talc and Plumbago Mines Co., Ltd., 26, Old Hall Street, Liverpool

Poles, Telegraph—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C...

Porcelain Paint—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. ... ...

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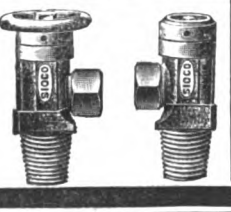

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Portland Cement—
Peters Bros., 34, Victoria Street, S.W. ... ...
West Kent Portland Cement Co., Burham, Rochester, Kent ... ...

Preservative for Stone, &c.—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. ... ...

Printers, Publishers, and Engravers—
Colliery Guardian Co., Ltd., 49, Essex Street, Strand, W.C. 12
Sheppard & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Smily & Shaw, London, E.C.

Printing Ink Manufacturers—
Blackwell & Co., London, E.C. 19
Coates Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Proprietary Articles, Specialities, &c.—
Baumgartner, J. F., & Co., London, W. ("La Brillantine" Metallic Powder)
Dalmas, A. de St., & Co., Leicester (Medical Plaisters)
Henry's Calcined Magnesia (T. & W. Henry), Manchester
Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Co., Lincoln (Clarke's Blood Mixture)..
Scott & Bowne, Ltd., London E.C. (Scott's Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil)... ...

Provision Merchants (Wholesale and Export)—
Griffiths, McAlister & Co., Liverpool ... ...
Gunson, Geo., Sons & Co. Liverpool ... ...
MacSimon's Stores, Ltd., Canning Place, Liverpool..
Nickson, G. & J., & Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Provisions (Importers and Exporters)—
Gunson, Geo., Sons & Co., 3, Atherton Street, Liverpool

PAGE

Pulley Blocks—
Godfrey, J. T., Loughborough

Pulleys—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks 4

Pumping Engines—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. 1

Pumps—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Quarry Owners—
Freeman, J., Son & Co., London, W. ... ...
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Quilts, Covers, Toilettings, &c.—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester

Quiltings and Piques—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester

Railway Appliances—
Saxby & Farmer, Ltd., Canterbury Road, London, N.W. (Railway Signals, &c.) C

Railway Brass Foundry—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Heath Mill Lane, Birmingham ... ...

Railway Lamp Lenses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham

Railway Signals—
Saxby & Farmer, Ltd., London, N.W. C

Rain Water Separator—
Rogers, H. J., Shottermill, Haslemere ... ...

Reducing Valves for Compressed Gases—
Scotch & Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow 19

PAGE

Refrigerators—
Haslam Foundry and Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Derby C
Pulsometer Engineering Co., The, Reading and London

Retorts—
Stevens, J., & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Rings and Springs—
Buckley, Wm., & Co., Millsands, Sheffield... 8

Rivet, Bolt, and Nut Manfrs.—
Gadd, Thos., Rowley Regis, Dudley ... ...
Guest, Keen, & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...
Periam, H. W., Birmingham 24
Priest, B., & Sons, Oldhills, Staffs ... ...

Roof Glazing—
Grover & Co., Ltd London, N.

Roofing (Patent)—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N.

Roofing Tile Machinery—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs. ... ...

Roofing Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Rope Manufacturers—
Piggott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Rubber Tyres—
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N. 20

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PAGE

Safety Fuse Manufacturers—
Nobel's Explosive Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

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United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

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Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

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Cocks, Chas., & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...

Saw Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield 3

Scrap Iron—
Adams, John, & Sons, Broad Chare, Newcastle-on-Tyne

Screw Hooks, Screw Eyes—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

Screwing Tackle—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ... ...

Screws and Spindles—
Dodd, Joseph, & Co.. Chester Works, Aston, Birmingham

Screws, Washers, Nails, &c.—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...
Periam, H. W., Birmingham 24

Seals—
Pryor, E. & Son, Sheffield ...

Seed Merchants—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ...

PAGE

Seeds—
Cooper, Taber & Co., Ltd., London ... ...

Separators (Electro Magnitis)—
Gaskell, A. E., & Co., Manchester ... ...

Serge—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford... ... ...
Hamlyn Bros., Ltd., Buckfastleigh, Devon ... ...
Spinner & Co., Manchester...

Sewing Machines—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee C

Shaftings, Pulleys, Plummer Blocks, &c.—
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MacSymon's Stores, Ltd., Canning Place, Liverpool..

Ships' Berths—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Bordesley, Birmingham... ...

PAGE

Ships' Lamp Lenses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham

Shirtings—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow ... ...

Shoe Rivets—
Edridge, Merrett & Co., Ltd., Legge Street, Birmingham

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Harris & Sheldon, Ltd., Stafford Street, Birmingham...

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Shovels—
Thornton, George, & Co., Birmingham 18

Shuttle Block Manufacturers—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool ... ...

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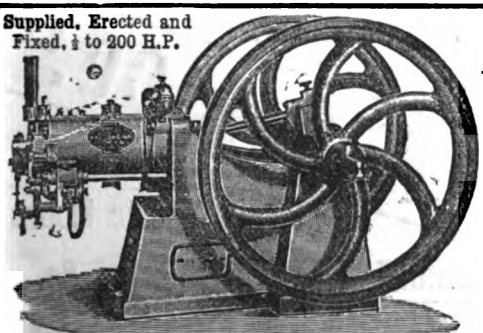

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Soap Manufacturers—*contd.* PAGE
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Hazlehurst Soap Works, Runcorn
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester (Hard and Soft Soaps)... ... ...

Soap Powders—
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

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Soda—
Brunner, Mond, & Co., Northwich, Cheshire ... ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Spades—
Thornton, George, & Co., Birmingham 18

Sponge Cloths, &c.—
Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester... ... C

Stamp and Punch Makers—
Pryor, Edward, & Son, Sheffield ... ...

Stationers (Manufacturing and Export)—
Dickinson, John, & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Stay Busk Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... 3

Steam Boilers—
Hartley & Sugden, Halifax... 4

Steam Gauge—
Hodson, Wright & Wood, Halifax ... ...

Steam Pulsating Pumps—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...

Steam Saw Mills—
Fabbricotti, B., London, S.W.

Steam Traps—
Whiteley, W., & Sons, Ltd., Lockwood, Huddersfield... 14

Steam Valves— PAGE
Shaw, J., Albert Works, Huddersfield ... ...

Steel Castings, Steel and Iron Forgings, &c.—
Baird, W., & Co., Glasgow ...
Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby 15
Fairley, J., & Sons, Birmingham ... ...
Lanarkshire Steel Co., The, Motherwell, N.B. ... ...
Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Steel and Iron Shafting, &c.—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee C
Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Steel Manufacturers—
Brown, Bayley's Steel Works, Ltd., Sheffield ... ...
Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby 15
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield 3
Fairley, J., & Sons, Birmingham ... ...
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Stone Breakers—
Baxter, W. H., Ltd., Leeds... 8

Stone, Solution for Preservation of—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E.

Stoves—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

Strong Rooms— PAGE
Hobbs, Hart & Co., Ltd., London, N.... 6

Sugar Refiners—
Tate, Henry, & Sons, Ltd., London and Liverpool ...

Sulphate of Copper—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

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Tea Merchants— PAGE

Tower Tea Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

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Telegraph Engineers—

Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C...

Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. C

Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. 17

Telegraph Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Helsby, Warrington ... ...

Telephones—

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PAGE

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Gradwell, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness, Lancs.

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Tinplate Decorating Co., Ltd., The, Neath ... ...

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Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. ...

London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...

Tool Manufacturers—

Luke & Spencer, Ltd.. Broadheath, Manchester 23

Thornton, George, & Co., Birmingham 18

Towels—

Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester

Traction Engines—

Aveling & Porter, Ltd., Rochester C

Tube Mill Machinery—

Jones, George, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

Tubes and Fittings—

Dugard Bros., Birmingham..

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Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

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Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool ... ...

Typewriter—

Yost Typewriter Co., Ltd., The, London, E.C. ... ...

PAGE

Tyre Manufacturers—

Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N.... 20

Valves for Compressed Gases—

Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow 19

Varnish Manufacturers—

Blackwell & Co., Dyer's Buildings, E.C.... 19

Flack, Henry, London, S.E...

Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E. ... ...

Palmer, W. H., & Co., 82, Old Street, E.C. ... ...

Parker & Lester, London, S.E. (Parker's Imperial Black)... ... ...

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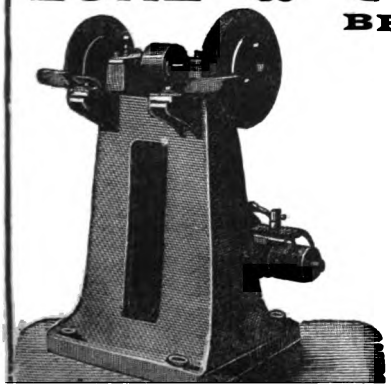

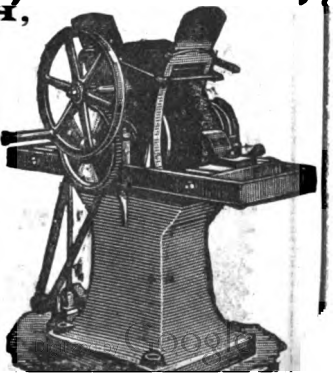

THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Waiter and Tray Manufacturers—
Frank Hawker Carpathian Silver Co., Ltd., 52, Spencer-street, Birmingham ... ...

Washers—
Periam, Herbert W., Ltd., Floodgate-street Works, Birmingham 24

Watch and Clock Manufacturers—
Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 & 34, Cockspur-street, London ... ...

Water Meters, Sluice Valves, Steam Valves and Fire Appliances—
Simpson, J., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. 1

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Piggott Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Waterproof Paint Manufacturers—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E.

Water Softeners—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading ... ...

Water Taps—
Palatine Engineering Co., Ltd., Liverpool 4

Weaving Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...
Whiteley, Wm., & Sons, Lockwood, Huddersfield... 14

Wheels—
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N.... 20

Whip and Walking Stick Makers—
Narborough, F., 42 & 44, Lombard-street, Birmingham ... ...

White Lead Manufacturers—
Mersey White Lead Co., Ltd., Warrington ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Wine and Spirit Merchants— PAGE
Chaplin, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, W.C. ... ...
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Cradock, G., & Co., Wakefield ... ...
Lewis, Joseph, 5 & 6, Great Winchester-street, London, E.C. 8

Wireworkers and Weavers—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...
Power, F. A., & Son, Saltley, Birmingham ... ...

Wood Block Flooring—
Geary, Walker & Co., London, E.C. 22

Wood Stains—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E.
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E. ... ...

Wolsey Unshrinkable Wool-Underwear— PAG
Walker, R., & Sons, Rutland Street, Leicester ... ...

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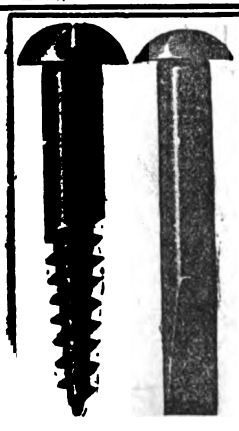

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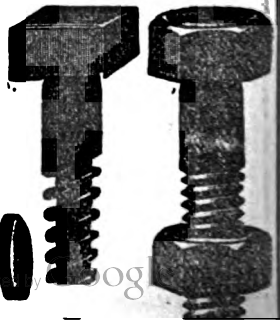

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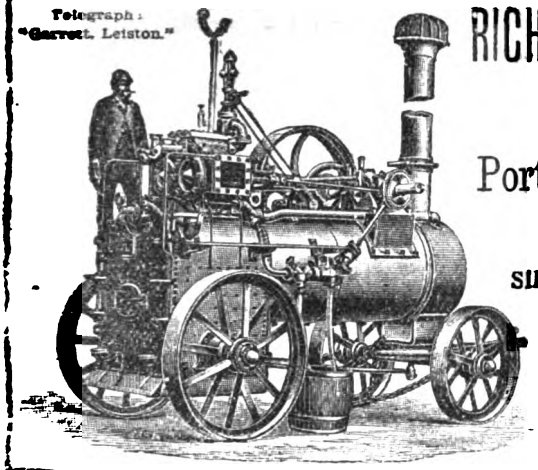

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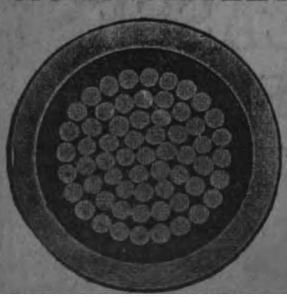

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	PAGE
OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE	243
COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE AGENTS IN THE COLONIES. ...	253
NEW COMMERCIAL TREATIES BETWEEN GERMANY AND OTHER POWERS	254
FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM IN JANUARY, 1905 ...	254
TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS	259
SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT	274
MINERALS, METALS, AND MACHINERY	276
AGRICULTURE	278
MISCELLANEOUS	280
STATISTICAL TABLES	283
GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS (BOARD OF TRADE,* FOREIGN OFFICE, COLONIAL OFFICE, &c.)	287

For list of contents in detail see p. vii. *of Advertisements.*

* *For list of principal publications of Board of Trade see p.* v. *of Advertisements.*

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BURY (LANCS.).—February 14.—Supply and erection of the following plant, for the Electricity Committee:—One 500-kw. direct-current high-speed generating set. Mr. S. J. Watson, M.I.E.E., engineer and manager, Electricity Works, Bury. (Fee, £2 2s., returnable.)

NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME (STAFFS.).—February 22.—Manufacture and erection of three sets of gas engines and centrifugal pumps, for the Corporation. Messrs. Willcox & Raikes, Union Chambers, 63, Temple Row, Birmingham. (Fee, £2 2s., returnable).

BLACKBURN. — February 11th. — Coal slack, for the Corporation. The Municipal Offices.

STOCKPORT.—February 15.—Supply and erection complete of one 21-kw. tramway rail return booster, for the Gas and Electricity Committee. Mr. A. J. H. Carter, borough electrical engineer, Millgate, Stockport.

TODMORDEN.—February 13.—Supply and fixing complete of two new purifiers, 25 ft. square, on Green's principle, with centre valves complete, for the Gas Committee. The Gasworks, Millwood, Todmorden.

MERTHYR TYDFIL. — February 14. — 5,700 and 6,000 tons of cast-iron pipes, of diameters ranging from 20 in. to 6 in., &c., for the Merthyr Tydfil Urban District Council. Mr. F. Deacon, 16, Great George Street, Westminster, S.W., or Mr. T. Rees, clerk, Town Hall, Merthyr Tydfil. (Fee, £2 2s., returnable).

PLYMOUTH. — February 15. — Cast-iron work, &c., for the Corporation. The Water Engineer, Municipal Offices.

HINCKLEY (LEICS.).—February 11th.—Coal, for the Gas Committee. Mr. Fred Lee, Gas Manager.

PORTSMOUTH.—February 15.—Castings, &c., for the Corporation. The manager of the Electric Lighting Station.

RICHMOND (SURREY).—February 18.—Ironfounders' work, &c., for the Town Council. The Borough Surveyor.

SALFORD.—February 15.—The following materials, for the Tramways Committee:—Car accessories (electrical); car accessories (mechanical); iron and steel, &c. The General Manager, Tramway Offices, 32, Blackfriars Street, Salford.

SEDGEFIELD (DURHAM).—February 11.—Erection of two iron verandahs, for the Durham County Asylum, Sedgefield, William Crozier, county architect, Shire Hall, Durham.

SHEFFIELD. — February 17. — Castings, &c., for the Highway and Sewerage Committee. The City Surveyor, Town Hall. (Fee, 10s., returnable).

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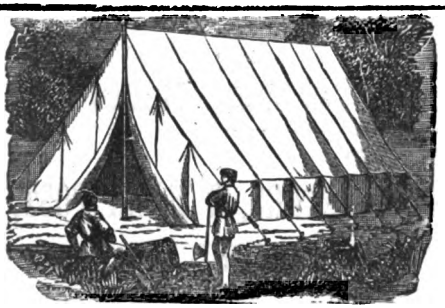

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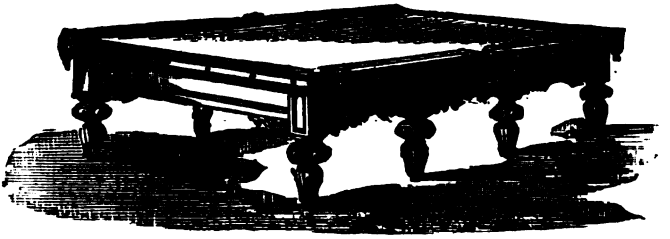

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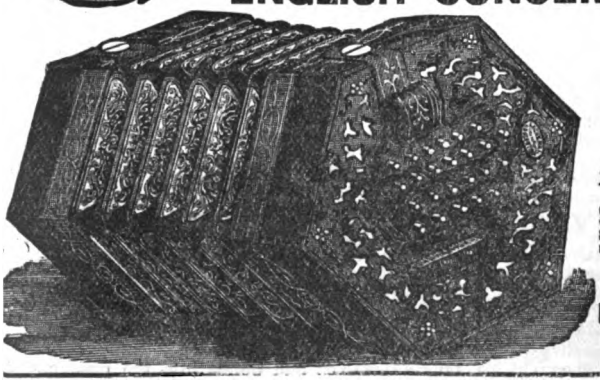

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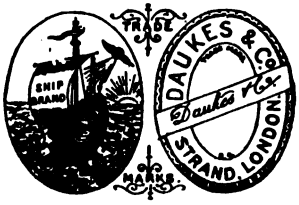

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CONTENTS.

PAGE

Openings for British Trade 243

United Kingdom.—Tenders for Supplies to the Duke of York's Royal Military School, Chelsea.
Tenders for Coal.

British Colonies, &c.:—

British India.—Opening for Pier Works at Bombay.

Canada.—Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

Cape Colony.—Opening for Atmospheric Turbine Pumps.

Uganda Protectorate.—Tenders for Galvanised Wrought Iron Piping and Fittings.

Foreign Countries:—

Openings for Trade in Sweden, Norway, Germany, Belgium, French Indo-China, Spain, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Ottoman Empire, Morocco, United States of America, Mexico and Brazil.

Exhibition:—Cape Town.

Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade 253

Agents in the Colonies.

New Commercial Treaties between Germany and other Powers 254

Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in January, 1905 254

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations 259

United Kingdom. British India. Canada. Australian Commonwealth. Southern Rhodesia. Egypt. French Indo-China. Spain. Italy. Venezuela. Argentina.

Shipping and Transport 274

Freight Rates on Government Railways in Queensland. New Bye-Laws as to Pilotage Exemption and Marine Survey Fees in South Australia. New Railways in 1904 and Output of Cars and Locomotives in 1904 in United States of America. New Steamship Line between New York and Venezuelan Ports. Damage to Costa Rica Railway.

Minerals, Metals, and Machinery 276

Natal Asbestos Deposits; Samples on View. Gold Production of the Transvaal in 1904. Pig-iron and Coal Production of Germany in 1904. Copper Mining Industry of Coquimbo (Chile).

Agriculture... 278

Tomato Pack of Canada and the United States of America in 1904. Wheat Harvest of New South Wales. Appointment of Irrigation Commission in the Transvaal and Orange River Colonies. Cotton Cultivation in Tucuman (Argentina).

Miscellaneous 280

Trade of the Somaliland Protectorate in 1903-04. Budget Expenditure of Brazil for 1905. Export Trade of Brazil, First Nine Months of 1904.

Statistical Tables... 283

Cotton Returns (Month and Week).
Corn Prices.
Imports of Agricultural Produce.
Emigration Statistics.

Government Publications 237

Board of Trade Returns and Labour Gazette. Note of Foreign Office Reports, also of certain other Government Publications having a bearing upon trade issued during the week. List of Foreign Office Reports, arranged geographically, also a list of Colonial Office Reports issued since the beginning of the year.

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THE

Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. XLVIII.] February 9, 1905. [No. 428

In a notice on p. 290 will be found a statement of the objects and work of the **Commercial Intelligence Branch** of the Board of Trade.

The Branch has been moved from 50, Parliament Street to 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

"Advantage, London" is the registered telegraphic address of the Branch.

The Temporary Enquiry Office, hitherto at 49, Eastcheap, E.C., has also been moved to 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

All applications respecting subscription to the "Board of Trade Journal," or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS: WAR OFFICE.

Supplies to the Duke of York's Royal Military School, Chelsea.

The Secretary of State for War is prepared to receive tenders for the supply of:—

1. Bread and flour.
2. Meat.
3. Milk.
4. Bacon, butter, and cheese.
5. Fruit and vegetables.
6. Groceries,

for the use of the Duke of York's Royal Military School, at Chelsea, during a period of six months from 1st April, 1905.

Forms of tender and conditions of contract may be obtained on

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Openings for British Trade.

UNITED KINGDOM—*continued.*

application at the War Office, Pall Mall, S.W., by letter, or in person, between the hours of 10 and 4 o'clock, and no tender will be entertained unless made upon the form so obtained. Any enquiries as to the method of delivery, approximate quantities, &c., should be made at the Duke of York's Royal Military School, Chelsea.

The tenders are to be delivered at the War Office, Pall Mall, S.W., by noon, on Wednesday, the 22nd February.

Coal.

The Secretary of State for War is prepared to receive tenders for the supply of such quantities of house, steam and smiths' coal as may be demanded for the Army Ordnance Department, Royal Arsenal and Dockyard, Woolwich, and for the Royal Army Clothing Department, Grosvenor Road, Pimlico, S.W., during 12 months, from the 1st April, 1905.

Separate forms of tender, showing the approximate quantities and the descriptions required, may be obtained on personal application, or by letter addressed to the War Office, Pall Mall, S.W.

For any further information as to mode of delivery, &c., application should be made to the Chief Ordnance Officer, Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, and to the Royal Army Clothing Department, Grosvenor Road, Pimlico, S.W., respectively.

The tenders are to be delivered at the War Office, Pall Mall, S.W., by 12 noon, on Monday, the 27th February.

BRITISH INDIA.

Pier Works at Bombay.

The "Pioneer Mail" of the 6th January states that the Bombay Port Trust have decided to acquire a site for the bulk oil installations at Sewri well to the north of the docks and city. The new site is several miles removed from the existing one; the land is open agricultural land, cut off from the city by a range of low hills. The ground is also cut off from the harbour by ridges. The new Harbour Railway will pass close to the new site. A long pier will be run out and steamers will be able to discharge their cargoes at all times. The new site will afford accommodation for all existing installations and room for fresh ones. The bulk oil trade will be removed entirely from the north-east of the harbour.

CANADA.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following were among the enquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the **Canadian Government Offices, Victoria Street, S.W.,** whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

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Openings for British Trade.

CANADA—*continued.*

Home Enquiries.—Enquiry has been made by a London firm of grain and flour importers for names of Canadian exporters of those products.

A firm desirous of importing linseed meal and cakes for cattle, have asked to be referred to Canadian shippers interested.

A large flour importer wishes to be placed in communication with a first class mill in Manitoba which grinds spring wheat, and also a good winter wheat mill in Ontario.

A manufacturer of leather leggings is desirous of extending his Canadian connection, and has asked to be referred to interested persons.

A manufacturer of storage batteries desires representation in Canada by a firm of electrical engineers well acquainted with the trade and having good connections.

An importer doing business on a commission basis is willing to buy oils, greases, tallow and other products from Canadian sources.

A Glasgow agent is seeking the representation for Scotland of Canadian exporters of agricultural produce.

A well-established London firm in touch with British produce markets can deal promptly with any produce that Canadian exporters may wish to dispose of.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, Victoria Street, S.W.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following trade enquiries have been received at the Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—The manufacturers of spades and shovels by a patent process wish to obtain a share of Canadian trade.

A firm manufacturing sheep-skin rugs ask for addresses of Canadian importers of these goods.

An enquiry has been received for the names of Canadian manufacturers of wood mantel-pieces and over-mantels in oak, beech, birch, and ash woods.

A firm manufacturing cream separators are prepared to appoint a Canadian resident agent to introduce their goods.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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Openings for British Trade.

CAPE COLONY.

Atmospheric Turbine Pumps.

The "Handels Museum" (Vienna) states that there is a demand in Cape Colony for atmospheric turbines for use in boring artesian wells. Two types of these machines are used in South Africa; a light machine for filling cattle troughs, and a heavier kind for irrigation purposes. The chief qualities sought after in the first type of machine are: lightness of construction, sufficient suction power, great mobility (even with a light breeze), simplicity of mechanism, and a relatively small price. As regards the turbine irrigation pumps, it is stated that they should be of sufficient power to cover an acre with water to the depth of 3 inches in 11 hours, in a good wind, drawing the water from a depth of 26 feet. Only a limited number of these machines have hitherto been imported, mainly from the United States.

UGANDA PROTECTORATE.

Galvanised Wrought Iron Piping and Fittings.

The Crown Agents for the Colonies, acting on behalf of the Uganda Railway, invite tenders from manufacturers for the supply of galvanised wrought-iron piping and fittings, specification and form of tender for which can be obtained on application to the Crown Agents between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. (Saturday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

Tenders are to be delivered in sealed envelopes addressed to the Crown Agents for the Colonies, Whitehall Gardens, S.W., and endorsed "Tender for Galvanised Wrought-iron Piping and Fittings, Uganda Railway," not later than noon on 22nd February, 1905.

The Crown Agents do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

SWEDEN.

Coal.

A despatch has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from H.M. Consul at Stockholm, reporting that tenders are invited for the supply of about 91,000 tons of first class gas coal to the Stockholm Gas Works, delivered c.i.f. Stockholm, and about 17,000 tons of steam coal (about 1,000 tons best South Yorkshire and 16,000 tons Newcastle Smalls) to the Stockholm Electric Works, delivered c.i.f. Värta Harbour, Stockholm.

Sealed tenders, marked respectively, "Anbud a gaskol" and "Anbud a angkol" will be received until 2 p.m. on the 15th

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Openings for British Trade.

SWEDEN—*continued.*

February, by Mr. Ad. Ahlsell, Chief Engineer, Stockholm Gas Works, Stockholm.

Translations of the forms of contract and of a notice containing further particulars may be seen on application at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

Creosote Oil.

The supplement to the "Post och Inrikes Tidningar" of 31st January, contains a notice inviting tenders for the supply to the State Railway of Sweden of about 2,225,000 kilos. of creosote oil to be delivered at certain places in Sweden during the period from March to August next. The oil must be prepared from coal tar, and must fulfil the conditions laid down in the specification, which can be obtained with other information and tender forms from the Office of the Railway Administration at the Central Station, Stockholm. Tenders must be sent in to the Registrar of the Railway Administration before mid-day on the 20th February in sealed envelopes, marked "Anbud â Kreosotolja."

NORWAY.

Galvanised Fence Wire: Fence Netting: Iron Fence Posts.

With reference to the notice in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 2nd February, pp. 200-1, announcing a call for tenders for the supply of galvanised fence wire, fence netting, and iron fence posts to the Norwegian State Railways, a despatch has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from the Acting British Consul-General at Christiania (Mr. E. F. Gray), forwarding the conditions of delivery and drawings (4) relating to this contract, which may be inspected at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

From the conditions it appears that samples of fence wire, not less than half metre long, must accompany tenders, which should state prices, per 1,000 kilogs., for each class of goods separately, and name of factory. The conditions also state in detail the quantity of each class of goods required and the place of delivery.

The estimated value of the contract is from 60,000 kr. to 70,000 kr. (3,330*l.* to 3,890*l.*).

Apart from the usual Customs duties, a preference of from 10 to 15 per cent. is given to Norwegian manufacturers.

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Openings for British Trade.

GERMANY.

Gas Coal for Stettin.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from H.M. Consul at Stettin (Mr. R. Bernal) copy of a notice inviting tenders for the supply of 34,000 English tons of gas coals to the Stettin Gas Works. Sealed tenders marked "Angebot auf die Kohlenlieferung für die Städt, Gasanstalt," must be delivered to "Der Magistrat Gas-und Wasserleitungs-Deputation, Rathaus, Zimmer No. 27, Stettin," not later than noon on 21st February. Conditions of contract may be obtained at the above address on payment of 50 pfennigs (6*d.*). A copy of the conditions may be inspected at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

Supply of various Materials.

H.M. Consul at Stettin has also forwarded copy of a further notice inviting tenders for the supply, during the fiscal year 1905, of the following materials to the "Königliche Wasserbauinspection - Ost" at Stralsund, viz. :—

Lot 1.	3,000	tons	of steam coal.
„ 2.	10,000	kilos.	of petroleum.
„ 3.	7,000	„	olive oil (machine oil).
	1,500	„	cylinder oil.
„ 4.	9,400	„	hemp rope.
„ 5.	4,000	„	cast-iron machine parts.
	15,000	„	„ fire-bars, &c.
„ 6.	18,400	„	wrought-iron and sheet-iron.
„ 7.	10,900	„	paint and varnish.
„ 8.	350	„	lamp oil.
	3,000	„	soda.
	800	„	coal-tar pitch.
	300	„	rosin pitch.
	1,700	„	vegetable tar.
	2,000	„	coal tar.
	2,400	„	karbolineum (creosote ?).
	800	„	engine tallow.
„ 9.	170	cubic metres	pine, round, full-edged and in planks.
„ 10.	35	cubic metres	oak, for shipbuilding purposes.

Sealed tenders, bearing on envelope the respective inscription (in German) must be delivered to "Die Königliche Wasserbauinspection-Ost, Stralsund, Dähnholmstr. 11," not later than 11 a.m. on the 18th February.

The conditions of contract may be obtained at the address mentioned on payment of 1 mark (1*s.*)—not in stamps—for any of the above lots.

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Openings for British Trade.

BELGIUM.

Electric Cranes.

A despatch has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp (Mr. E. Cecil Hertslet), notifying that tenders are invited for the construction and erection of 15 electric cranes at the port of Ghent.

Tenders should be sent in a registered envelope addressed to the "Collège Echevinal de la Ville de Gand." The adjudication will take place on the 20th February. A preliminary deposit of 3,000 fr. (120*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

A limited number of specifications have been received from H.M. Consul-General, and these may be obtained (until the supply is exhausted) by British manufacturers and traders on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

FRANCE—INDO-CHINA.

Railway Construction and Plant.

The French "Journal Officiel" of 31st January publishes a Decree authorising the construction of the following railways in Indo-China:—(1) an extension of the Saigon railway to Khan-Hoa—cost, 29,200,000 fr.; (2) a line from Phan-rang to Danhim, being the first section of the Lang-Bian branch line—cost, 11,500,000 fr.; (3) a line from Hué to Kwangtri—cost, 7,300,000 fr.

The "Journal" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

Fuel.

The "Journal Officiel de l'Indo-Chine Française" of 19th December, 1904, publishes a Decree allocating the sum of 570,000 francs (about 22,800*l.*) for the purchase of a reserve stock of fuel for the railways of that colony.

SPAIN.

Electric Tramway Concession.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 2nd February publishes a notice inviting tenders, which will be adjudicated on 8th April, for the concession of an electric tramway between the Calle del Barquillo and the Plaza de Olavide, Madrid, in accordance with certain conditions detailed in the "Gaceta." An application

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Openings for British Trade.

SPAIN—*continued.*

for this concession has already been made by the "Compañia Eléctrica Madrileña de Traccion" who, at the same rates, will enjoy certain preferential rights over other tenderers. The competition will turn, in the first place, on the reduction of the tariffs proposed, and if two or more identical propositions are made, a further verbal adjudication will take place with a view to the reduction of the period of the concession (sixty years). A deposit of 3,200 pesetas (about 96*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Local representation would be necessary.

Water Purification Works.

The same issue of the "Gaceta" announces that an international competition has been instituted for the best project for purifying the waters of the Isabel II. Canal, providing not only for the installation of filter beds, but for the treatment of the whole of the water before distribution. Projects, accompanied by full explanatory details, models, &c., will be received at the "Alcaldia Presidencia," Madrid, until the 31st March. A pamphlet containing full particulars of the competition may be obtained by intending competitors from the "Laboratorio Quimico Municipal," Madrid.

Coal.

The "Gaceta" of 4th February publishes a notice calling for tenders, which will be opened in the office of the Secretary of the Administration of the Port Works, at Valencia, at noon on the 14th March, for the supply of 1,700 tons of coal. A deposit of 5,000 pesetas (about 151*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Local representation is necessary.

The "Gacetas" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

ITALY.

Inducements for the Establishment of New Industries at Naples.

Adverting to the announcement made in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 12th May, 1904, p. 248, the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from the Italian Chamber of Commerce in London, copy of a pamphlet, issued by the Royal Neapolitan Institute of Encouragement, illustrating the Law passed by the Italian Parliament on the 8th July, 1904. The Law provides

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for the exemption from taxation, the introduction of cheap motive power, and other measures for attracting new industries.

The principal measures contained in the Law, besides the exemption from excise duties and other dispositions of like nature, are the following:—

1. **Complete exemption of new industries from direct taxation.**—Factories established in Naples within ten years of the passing of the Law are exempt from taxation for ten years after their foundation.

2. **Exemption from Customs duties.**—All the plant, machinery and materials of all kinds (including building materials) needed for the foundation of manufactories are to be admitted free of Customs duties for ten years. In addition, new industries are authorised to purchase salt free from the monopoly of the Government, that is to say, at cost price.

3. **Commissions of Work from the Government.**—The Government reserves for ten years the construction at Naples of not less than one-eighth of the rolling stock required for the Italian railways.

4. **Concession of Cheap Motive Power.**—The hydraulic force of the Falls at Cape Volturno (about 16,000 horse-power) is to be transformed into electric power, and brought into Naples for the benefit of its industries.

Copies of the pamphlet (in English) containing full details of the inducements offered, together with the text of the Law of 8th July, 1904, may be obtained from the Secretary of the Italian Chamber of Commerce in London, 4, St. Mary Axe, E.C.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

Steamers.

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" (Brussels) states that the Austrian Lloyd Company will shortly invite tenders for the construction of two steamers for use on an express service.

OTTOMAN EMPIRE.

Purchase of Litharge.

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" (Brussels) states that the Minister of Agriculture, Mines and Forests, Constantinople, will receive offers until the 28th February/13th March for the purchase of about 400,000 kilogs. of litharge.

MOROCCO.

Export Trade in Goat Skins.

In his report for the year 1903 (*Foreign Office, Annual Series,* 3,322), the British Vice-Consul at Tangier (Mr. Wyldbore Smith) writes:—

"I would draw the attention of British

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Openings for British Trade.

MOROCCO—*continued.*

merchants to the possibility of furthering trade in the following articles:—

"British tanners might do well to give Moorish goat-skins a trial; they are at present being exported in large quantities to America *viâ* the United Kingdom.

"These goat-skins are sold f.o.b. London at an average price of 9*d.* per lb.

"The skins exported from this district are reputed to be the finest in Morocco, and native dealers are now paying considerably more attention to the selection and preparation of these skins than formerly.

Semolina.

"The bulk of trade under the head of flour is at present from Marseilles.

"There is a large market in this country for semolina, in which British traders should be able to compete favourably, and it might be worth their while to procure samples of the qualities required for this market.

Building Materials.

"With the rapidly increasing population at Tangier, the building trade has received a great stimulus, and there is, in consequence, a very great demand for building material of all descriptions. The bricks and tiles are, at present, mostly of French origin."

It may be added that the report referred to contains tables of principal articles of import and export at the three ports of Tangier, Laraiche and Tetuan, together with notes on each showing the countries principally interested.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Gas Producers for Glass Furnaces.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul at Boston (Mr. W. Wyndham) that he has received an enquiry for the names of British manufacturers of gas producers for glass furnaces.

Communications should be addressed to H.M. Consul, British Consulate, Boston, United States of America.

MEXICO.

Machinery for Smelting Works.

The "Diario Oficial" of Mexico of 12th January publishes the text of a Decree authorising the Intercontinental Railway Syndicate to establish smelting works either in the town of Guanajuato or on a site in the State of Jalisco between the Pacific coast and the towns of Dolores Hidalgo, Guanajuato and Leon. All the machinery

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necessary for these works may be imported free of duty, provided the whole amount is imported at one and the same time.

The "Diario" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

BRAZIL.

Plants and Seeds: Blood Stock: Railway Plant: Dredging Works: Waterworks: River Improvement Works.

On p. 281 will be found particulars of the Budget expenditure of Brazil for 1905, in which provision is made, *inter alia*, for the disbursement of certain sums on submarine construction; plants and seeds for agriculturists; cattle for stock-breeding; railway construction; dredging works, waterworks and river improvement works.

EXHIBITION.

CAPE COLONY.

Closing of Cape Town Industrial Exhibition.

With reference to the notice on p. 488 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 15th December last, and to previous notices respecting the Cape Town Industrial Exhibition, the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified that it has been decided to extend the date for closing the exhibition to the 28th February.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

AGENTS IN THE COLONIES.

With reference to the notice on p. 205 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 2nd February, the Board of Trade have been notified that the following officer has been charged with the duty of receiving and answering commercial enquiries which may be addressed to him either by the Commercial Intelligence Branch or by merchants and others who may seek advice:—

Ceylon ... ... Mr. W. H. Jackson, Principal Collector of Customs, Colombo.

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NEW COMMERCIAL TREATIES BETWEEN GERMANY AND OTHER POWERS.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy of the official German text of the new commercial treaties recently concluded between Germany and other Powers, viz., Russia, Austria-Hungary, Italy, Belgium, Switzerland, Roumania, and Servia, containing the lists of tariff concessions agreed upon as a result of the conclusion of those treaties. It is to be understood that the concessions in question affect the new "general" tariffs of Germany, Russia, Austria-Hungary, Roumania, Switzerland, and Servia, which are not yet in force, and not the tariff rates which are actually being levied.

Copy of the treaties referred to may be consulted by persons interested at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C. It may be of interest to state here that, according to an official memorandum prefixed to the volume containing the treaties, it is probable that all the new treaties will come into force in Germany on the 15th February, 1906.

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM IN JANUARY, 1905.

I.—GENERAL.

The trade returns for January, 1905, when compared with those for the corresponding month of 1904, show an increase in the value of the **Imports** into the United Kingdom, of the **Exports** of British produce, and also of the **Exports** of foreign and Colonial merchandise.

The value of the **Imports** in January, 1905, was 47,766,460*l.*, an increase of 1,633,940*l.*, or 3·5 per cent., as compared with January, 1904, whilst the total **Exports** amounted to 31,103,664*l.*, or an increase of 1,308,299*l.* The **Exports** of British produce alone show an increase of 906,412*l.*, or 3·8 per cent., as compared with January, 1904, whilst there is an increase of 401,887*l.*, or 7·0 per cent., in the **Exports** of foreign and Colonial merchandise.

II.—IMPORTS.*

The following table shows the value of the **Imports** for January, 1905, as compared with the corresponding month of 1904 and 1903, according to the different categories of merchandise :—

* The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance and freight; or when goods are consigned for sale, the latest sale value of such goods.

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in January, 1905.

Imports from Foreign Countries and British Possessions.*

—	Month ended 31st January. 1903.	1904.	1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1903.
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—					
A. Grain and flour	4,761,394	5,316,351	5,135,263	− 181,088	+ 373,869
B. Meat, including animals for food.	4,218,714	4,058,385	4,081,245	+ 22,860	− 137,469
C. Other food and drink—					
1. Non-dutiable	4,917,302	4,979,272	5,130,643	+ 151,371	+ 213,341
2. Dutiable	3,547,850	3,409,394	4,046,457	+ 637,063	+ 498,607
D. Tobacco	459,531	417,442	406,286	− 11,156	− 53,245
Total, Class I. ... £	17,904,791	18,180,844	18,799,894	+ 619,050	+ 895,103
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—					
A. Coal, coke, and patent fuel ...	1,071	808	1,002	+ 194	− 69
B. Iron ore, scrap iron, and steel ...	493,046	369,529	472,305	+ 102,776	− 20,741
C. Other metallic ores...	528,542	659,004	704,956	+ 45,952	+ 178,414
D. Wood and timber	886,900	1,039,015	737,851	− 301,164	− 149,049
E. Cotton	5,978,651	6,760,210	6,154,412	− 605,798	+ 175,761
F. Wool	3,023,164	2,400,944	3,298,774	+ 897,830	+ 275,610
G. Other textile materials	1,213,077	1,713,785	1,658,047	− 55,738	+ 444,970
H. Oil seeds, nuts, oils, fats, and gums	2,276,606	2,161,806	1,819,173	− 342,633	− 457,435
I. Hides and undressed skins ...	667,980	546,213	631,194	+ 84,981	− 36,786
J. Materials for paper making ...	258,413	283,815	273,744	− 10,071	+ 15,331
K. Miscellaneous	1,744,988	1,773,244	1,868,490	+ 95,246	+ 123,502
Total, Class II. ... £	17,070,440	17,708,373	17,619,948	− 88,425	+ 549,508
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	744,252	622,523	646,697	+ 24,174	− 97,555
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	1,302,475	1,480,647	1,725,075	+ 244,428	+ 422,600
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments	310,670	290,421	279,304	− 11,117	− 31,366
D. Telegraph cables and apparatus	7,530	3,749	5,913	+ 2,164	− 1,617
E. Machinery	381,142	306,533	332,846	+ 26,313	− 48,296
F. Ships (new)	6,450	387	517	+ 130	− 5,933
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture) ...	178,818	163,579	141,478	− 22,101	− 37,340
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton	637,197	553,939	628,252	+ 74,313	− 8,945
2. Wool	1,093,348	890,967	1,062,003	+ 171,036	− 31,345
3. Other materials	1,741,223	1,557,914	1,596,576	+ 38,662	− 144,647
I. Apparel	173,919	188,614	242,808	+ 54,194	+ 68,889
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	741,989	642,907	745,719	+ 102,812	+ 3,730
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes and gloves)	992,437	820,171	877,706	+ 57,535	− 114,731
L. Earthenware and glass	373,373	329,520	325,965	− 3,555	− 47,408
M. Paper...	407,176	376,882	410,052	+ 33,170	+ 2,876
N. Miscellaneous	1,923,632	1,808,747	2,154,075	+ 345,328	+ 230,443
Total, Class III. ... £	11,015,631	10,037,500	11,174,986	+ 1,137,486	+ 159,355
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post) £	235,653	205,803	171,632	− 34,171	− 64,021
Total value of Imports £	46,226,515	46,132,520	47,756,450	+ 1,623,940	+ 1,529,945

* The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance, and freight; or, when goods are consigned for sale, the latest Sale value of such goods.

Comparing the values of the imports of articles last month with those of January, 1904, the chief increases and decreases are as shown in the following statement:—

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in January, 1905.

Increases.

			£
I.	A.	Wheat	369,875
		Maize	257,637
	B.	Mutton, fresh ...	81,190
	C1.	Butter	167,038
		Cheese	60,512
	C2.	Sugar, refined, and sugar candy ...	425,893
		Sugar, unrefined...	372,621
II.	B.	Iron ore	101,998
	F.	Sheep or lambs' wool	771,669
		Mohair...	133,306
	K.	Caoutchouc... ...	164,292

			£
III.	A.	Steel: ingots, blooms, billets, &c.	71,358
	B.	Lead, pig and sheet	76,570
		Tin, in blocks, &c.	108,533
	H1.	Cotton yarns and fabrics	74,313
	H2.	Woollen stuffs ...	152,132
	K.	Leather	51,154
	N.	Motor cars and parts thereof ...	65,414
		Oil seed cake not sweetened ...	51,745
		Furs other than seal skins and rabbit skins ...	63,012

Decreases.

			£
I.	A.	Wheat meal and flour...	576,827
		Barley...	216,739
		Oats	61,365
	B.	Beef, fresh	53,229
		Hams	50,054
	C1.	Hops	134,722
		Potatoes	155,728
	C2.	Cocoa, raw	51,034
II.	D.	Wood and timber, hewn	66,596

			£
II.–*ctd.*	D.	Wood and timber, sawn or split ...	215,974
	E.	Cotton, raw... ...	607,500
	G.	Hemp, dressed and undressed ...	93,551
	H.	Flax or linseed ...	120,756
		Petroleum	86,586
		Turpentine	51,254
III.	A.	Iron, wrought, in bars, angles, &c.	55,304

The following instances of increase in value combined with decrease in quantity, or *vice versâ*, may be noted, viz. :—

			Increase.	Decrease.
I.	B.	Bacon	44,134 cwts. ...	£9,425
		Meat, preserved, otherwise than by salting	£20,732	302 cwts.
	C1.	Eggs	£4,573	76,215 great 100's.
		Onions	£17,962	112,109 bushels
	C2.	Coffee	£13,602	4,623 cwts.
		Molasses	£1.694	21,976 "
		Tea	2,097,768 lbs. ...	£23,501
	D.	Tobacco, manufactured, and snuff	£1,402	41,826 lbs.
II.	E.	Cotton, raw	394.790 cwts. ...	£607,500
	G.	Flax, dressed and undressed ...	£26,432	13 tons
		Jute	£11,687	9,212 "
	I.	Hides, raw, wet	£7,065	808 cwts.
III.	C.	Hardware...	256 cwts. ...	£3,708
		Clocks	929 number	£1,573
	E.	Machinery, not steam engines or electrical	£20,122 ...	98 tons
	N.	Brooms and brushes	£4,329	4,139 dozens

III.—EXPORTS.

The following table shows the value of the **Exports** of British produce for the month of January, 1905, as compared with the corresponding month of 1904 and 1903, and the increase or decrease in each principal category :—

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in January, 1905.

Exports of British Produce.*

—	Month ended 31st January. 1903.	1904.	1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1903.
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—					
A. Grain and flour	141,140	123,544	157,317	+ 33,773	+ 16,177
B. Meat, including animals for food	51,439	55,878	52,102	— 3,776	+ 663
C. Other food and drink	1,006,768	935,375	990,949	+ 55,574	— 15,819
D. Tobacco	62,473	62,429	80,740	+ 18,311	+ 18,267
Total, Class I. ... £	1,261,820	1,177,226	1,281,108	+ 103,882	+ 19,288
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—					
A. Coal, coke and patent fuel ...	2,258,592	1,995,249	1,976,733	— 18,516	— 281,859
B. Iron ore, scrap iron and steel ...	28,289	35,947	28,941	— 7,006	+ 652
C. Other metallic ores...	6,275	7,000	10,596	+ 3,596	+ 4,321
D. Wood and timber	3,625	3,384	6,901	+ 3,517	+ 3,276
E. Cotton	—	—	—	—	—
F. Wool	93,735	85,087	143,767	+ 58,680	+ 50,032
G. Other textile materials	12,648	7,775	15,789	+ 8,014	+ 3,141
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats and gums...	246,272	215,111	172,247	— 42,864	— 74,025
I. Hides and undressed skins ...	141,775	139,804	163,769	+ 23,965	+ 21,994
J. Materials for paper making ...	33,222	34,512	43,275	+ 8,763	+ 10,053
K. Miscellaneous	167,461	159,178	190,168	+ 30,990	+ 22,707
Total, Class II. ... £	2,991,894	2,683,047	2,752,186	+ 69,139	— 239,708
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	2,402,237	2,317,842	2,304,963	— 12,879	— 97,274
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	523,953	516,952	548,812	+ 31,860	+ 24,859
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments	379,493	388,169	390,729	+ 2,560	+ 11,236
D. Telegraph cables and apparatus..	91,077	177,150	58,884	— 118,266	— 32,193
E. Machinery	1,520,908	1,441,770	1,597,112	+ 155,342	+ 76,204
F. Ships (new)	347,369	214,266	127,576	— 86,690	— 219,793
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture) ...	140,786	109,529	109,143	— 386	— 31,643
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton...	6,702,772	6,937,380	7,301,359	+ 363,979	+ 598,587
2. Wool	2,457,134	2,546,383	2,866,585	+ 320,202	+ 409,451
3. Other materials	1,163,065	1,102,712	1,029,168	— 73,544	— 133,897
I. Apparel	813,512	580,029	496,894	— 83,135	— 316,618
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	1,156,218	1,103,789	1,183,714	+ 79,925	+ 27,496
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes, and gloves)	443,189	339,413	416,026	+ 76,613	— 27,163
L. Earthenware and glass	270,721	219,751	250,251	+ 30,500	— 20,470
M. Paper...	148,938	147,248	157,593	+ 10,345	+ 8,655
N. Miscellaneous	1,750,528	1,748,530	1,763,829	+ 15,299	+ 13,301
Total, Class III. ... £	20,311,900	19,890,913	20,602,638	+ 711,725	+ 290,738
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post) £	338,022	332,179	353,845	+ 21,666	+ 15,823
Total value of Exports of British produce ... £	24,903,636	24,083,365	24,989,777	+ 906,412	+ 86,141

Exports of Foreign and Colonial Produce.

	£	£	£	£	£
Total value...	6,067,718	5,712,000	6,113,887	+ 401,887	+ 46,169

* The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship, and are known as the "free on board" values.

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in January, 1905.

Comparing the values of the exports of the principal articles of British produce and manufacture in January, 1905, with those of January, 1904, the chief increases and decreases are as follow:—

Increases.

			£
II.	F	Wool, sheep and lambs'	58,680
III.	E.	Machinery, not steam engines or electrical ...	116,229
	H1.	Cotton piece goods	440,548
	H2.	Woollen tissues	240,566

Decreases.

		£
D.	Telegraph cables and apparatus...	118,266
F.	Ships, new	86,690
H1.	Cotton manufactures other than piece goods and yarn	123,487
H3.	Haberdashery and millinery	60,754
I.	Apparel, waterproofed and not waterproofed	83,644
N.	Railway trucks, waggons, &c., (not of iron) and parts thereof	78,035

The following instances of increase in value combined with decrease in quantity, or *vice versâ*, may be noted, viz.:—

			Increase.	Decrease.
II.	A.	Coal, coke, and patent fuel ...	201,197 tons ...	£18,516.
	G.	Flax and hemp	£3,456 ...	... 974 cwts.
	H.	Grease	£2,657 ...	... 13 cwts.
III.	B.	Lead, pig and manufactures ...	£2,555 ...	... 40 tons.
		Zinc or spelter	£1,657 ...	... 16 tons.
	C.	Hardware, unenumerated ...	19,276 cwts.	... £3,776.
	H2.	Wool, tops	£7,867 ...	... 364,800 lbs.
		,, carpets	£5,478 ...	... 51,200 yards.
	H3	Jute yarn...	£2,429 ...	... 50,400 lbs.
	N.	Brooms and brushes	805 dozens	... £2,754.
IV.		Animals, living, other than horses (not for food)... ...	1,507 (number)	£1,094.

V.—SHIPPING IN JANUARY, 1905.

The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes, during the month ended January, 1905, amounted to 2,933,139 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 3,720,587 tons, as against 2,979,361 tons entered and 3,670,965 tons cleared in the month of January, 1904. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during January, 1905, amounted to 2,619,051 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,578,133 tons, as against 2,640,259 tons entered, and 2,594,383 tons cleared in January, 1904.

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TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Revocation of Prohibition of Importation of Dominican Sugar.

An Order in Council has been issued dated 4th February, 1905, revoking the Order in Council of 23rd June, 1904 (*vide* "Board of Trade Journal" of 7th July, 1904, p. 24), by which the importation of sugar from the Dominican Republic into the United Kingdom was prohibited.

For the future it will be lawful to import sugar produced in San Domingo subject only to the same conditions as affect the importation of sugar from countries which are not parties to the Brussels Sugar Convention.

BRITISH INDIA.

Tariff Valuations.

The following further list of the general duties under the Import Tariff of British India is in continuation of that published on pp. 216–7 of last week's "Journal":—

SCHEDULE IV.—IMPORT TARIFF (*continued*).

No.	Names of Articles.	Per	Tariff Valuation.	Duty.
	METALS, &c.—*contd.*			
	Metals, unwrought and wrought—*contd.*		R. a.	
	Iron bar, other kinds, including strips ...	ton	100 0	1 %
	" " " nail-rod, round rod, and square, under half an inch in diameter.	"	105 0	"
	" " other kinds, if galvanised, tinned or lead-coated.	...	*ad val.*	"
	" beams, joists, pillars, girders, bridge-work, and other such descriptions of iron imported exclusively for building purposes.	...	"	"
	" plate and sheet, Lowmoor and similar qualities	ton	460 0	"
	" plate and sheet, Swedish and charcoal	...	*ad val.*	"
	" bars, plates, and sheets, Lowmoor, Swedish, and charcoal, if galvanised, tinned or lead-coated	...	"	"
	" plate, other kinds, above ⅛ in. thick	ton	100 0	"
	" sheets " " up to " "	"	115 0	"
	" plates, sheets (other than corrugated), and strips other kinds, galvanised, tinned, lead-coated, or planished.	...	*ad val.*	"
	" sheets, corrugated, galvanised, or black.	ton	160 0	"
	" hoop	"	115 0	"
	" nails, rose, wire and flat-headed ...	cwt.	8 8	"
	" " other kinds, including galvanised, tinned, or lead-coated.	...	*ad val.*	"

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

SCHEDULE IV.—IMPORT TARIFF—*continued.*

No.	Names of Articles.	Per	Tariff Valuation.	Duty.
	METALS, &c.—*contd.*			
	Metals, unwrought and wrought—*contd.*		R. a.	
	Iron nuts and bolts, also hooks and nuts for roofing, galvanised or black.	...	*ad val.*	1 %
	" old	cwt.	2 0	"
	" pig	...	*ad val.*	"
	" pipes and tubes, including fittings therefor, such as bends, boots, elbows, tees, sockets, flanges, and the like.	...	"	"
	" rice-bowls	...	"	"
	" ridging and guttering	...	"	"
	" rivets and washers, all sorts	...	"	"
	" wire, including fencing wire and wire rope, but excluding wire netting.	...	"	"
	" cans, tinned, when imported containing pretoleum which is separately assessed to duty at one anna per imperial gallon under No. 16.	can	0 3	5 %
	" all other sorts, including wire netting	...	*ad val.*	"
	Lametta	...	"	"
	Lead, all sorts (except sheets for tea-chests, which are free).	...	"	"
	Quicksilver	lb.	1 9	"
	Shot, bird	cwt.	15 0	"
	Silver bullion or coin, except current coin of the Government of India, which is free.	...	*ad val.*	"
	Steel, anchors and cables	...	"	1 %
	" blooms	...	"	"
	" angle, T, and channel	ton	100 0	"
	" " " " and hoop, if galvanised, tinned, or lead-coated.	...	*ad val.*	"
	" bars and strips (other than cast steel)	ton	100 0	"
	" " nail-rod, round rod, and square, under ½ in. in diameter.	"	105 0	"
	" bar, galvanised, tinned, or lead-coated	...	*ad val.*	"
	" plates above ⅛ in. thick	ton	100 0	"
	" sheets up to ⅛ in. "	"	115 0	"
	" plates, sheets, other than, corrugated strips, if galvanised, tinned, lead-coated, or planished.	...	*ad val.*	"
	" sheets, corrugated, galvanised or black	ton	160 0	"
	" hoop	"	135 0	"
	" nails	...	*ad val.*	"
	" nuts and bolts, also hooks and nuts for roofing, galvanised or black.	...	"	"
	" old	ton	130 0	"
	" beams, joists, pillars, girders, bridge work, and other such descriptions of steel imported exclusively for building purposes.	...	*ad val.*	"
	" cast and blistered, including spring and tub steel.	...	"	"

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

SCHEDULE IV.—IMPORT TARIFF—*continued.*

No.	Names of Articles.	Per	Tariff Valuation.	Duty.
	METALS, &c.—*contd.*			
	Metals, unwrought and wrought—*contd.*		R. a.	
	Steel ridging and guttering	...	*ad val.*	1 %
	„ pipes and tubes, including fittings therefor, such as bends, boots, elbows, tees, sockets, flanges, and the like.	...	„	„
	„ rivets and washers, all sorts... ...	...	„	„
	„ wire, including fencing wire and wire rope, but excluding wire-netting.	...	„	„
	„ cans, tinned, when imported containing petroleum, which is separately assessed to duty at one anna per imperial gallon under No. 16.	can	0 3	5 %
	„ all other sorts, including wire-netting	...	*ad val.*	„
	Tin, block	cwt.	105 0	„
	„ foil, and other sorts	...	*ad val.*	„
	Zinc or spelter, nails	...	„	„
	„ „ tiles or slabs, soft	cwt.	19 0	„
	„ „ plates and other shapes, hard	„	16 0	„
	„ „ all other sorts, including boiler tiles.	...	*ad val.*	„
	All other sorts of metals	...	„	„
	OILS.			
16	Petroleum, including also naphtha and the liquids commonly known by the names of rock-oil, Rangoon oil, Burma oil, kerosine, paraffin oil, mineral oil, petroline, gasoline, benzol, benzoline, benzine, and any inflammable liquid which is made from petroleum, coal, schist, shale, peat, or any other bituminous substance, or from any products of petroleum.	imp. gal.	...	1 anna.
	Petroleum, which has its flashing point at or above two hundred degrees of Fahrenheit's thermometer and is proved to the satisfaction of the Customs Collector to be intended for use exclusively for the batching of jute or other fibre or for lubricating purposes.	...	*ad val.*	5 %
	Petroleum, which has its flashing point at or above one hundred and fifty degrees of Fahrenheit's thermometer and is proved to the satisfaction of the Customs Collector to be intended for use exclusively as fuel.	...	„	„
	Cocoanut-oil	cwt.	20 0	„
	All other sorts of oil, animal or vegetable (including otto of all kinds) and mineral (including paraffin wax).	...	*ad val.*	„

(*To be continued.*)

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

DOMINION OF CANADA.

Customs Decisions: Articles subject to and exempt from "Special Duty."

With further reference to a Notice which appeared on pp. 14–26 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 5th January last, relating to the Regulations affecting the imposition of "special duty" on articles imported into the Dominion of Canada, the Board of Trade have now received from the High Commissioner for Canada, a copy of Bulletin No. 84 of 1904 issued by the Canadian Department of Customs on 23rd November last, giving various Customs Decisicns as to the articles exempt from, and subject to, "Special Duty" when imported into the Dominion.

The following is a list in *extenso* giving the Customs Decisions on articles subject to, and exempt from, "special duty," which have been given under section 19 of the Tariff Amendment Act No. 11 of 1904:—

Customs Decisions.

Articles exempt from Special Duty under subsection 7 and other provisions:—

Boiler plate, flange plate and fire-box plate, for use only in the manufacture of boilers—(conditional on the following declaration being subscribed and attested to by the importer on the face of the entry:—"The plates above described are boiler plates, flange plates, or fire-box plates (as the case may be) which have been imported in good faith as such, and will be used only in the manufacture of boilers").

Universal mill or rolled edge bridge plates when imported by manufacturers of bridges for the use only in the manufacture of bridges—(conditional on declaration being subscribed and attested to accordingly by the importer on the face of the entry).

Rolled edge plate, not less than ½ inch thick and over 15 feet long when imported and to be used only for tyres of traction engines—(conditional on declaration being subscribed and attested to accordingly by the importer on the face of the entry).

Flat galvanized sheet iron.

Guns and rifles, not military.

Twist drills.

Cabinet locks.

Pad locks.

Steel beams, tees, girders, for structural purposes, when not punched, drilled or in any further stage of manufacture than as rolled.

Pens and pencils.

Double tape fuses.

Dictionaries, English.

Bi-carbonate of soda.

Rubber brushes.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

DOMINION OF CANADA—*continued.*

Spread plasters.
Spitting cup and re-filler.
Vapo cresoline.
Peroxide of hydrogen.
Hydrozone.
School writing slates.

Articles subject to Special Duty (if sold at a reduced price for export).

Air brake equipment.
Air pumps.
Boilers.
Cranes (electric travelling).
Cranes (hand power).
Cranes (water).
Castings (heavy machinery) (columns).
Diggers (beaver post hole).
Fences (hammered iron).
Grilles (door, bank, etc.).
Hydrants (for fire purposes).
Injectors (easy).
Locomotives.
Momentum brake.
Nuts (cold pressed).
Pumping machinery.
Pipe (water, gas and heavy flanged).
Screws (Set cap, &c.).
Structural work (including bridges).
Trucks, street Ry. (Curtis type).
Specials (such as tees, ells, &c.).
Trucks (Ry., freight).
Valves.
Water towers.
Insulated wire and cables.
Incandescent and arc lamps.
Sockets.
Receptacles.
Cut-outs.
Plugs.
Rosettes and wiring accessories.
Cross arms.
Switches,
Porcelain insulators and cleats.
Lightning arresters,
Electric meters.
Transformers.
Dynamos and generators.
Motors.
Switchboards.
Wrought iron pipe, 3 inch and under.
Stationary boilers and steam engines.
Meat choppers.
Wire rods.
Saws.
Steel billets.
Hoop iron and steel, 16 gauge and thicker.
Steel rails.
Horse shoes.
Horse shoe nails.
Steel plate, 50 inch and less in width, ¾ inch and less in thickness, but not thinner than No. 12 gauge.
Railway fish plates.
Glazier points.
Steel angles up to 5 inch by 5 inch.
Writing ink.
Typewriter ribbons.
Carbon paper.
Carpets.
Cartridges and ammunition.
Mucilage.
Dynamite.
Electric fuse, for blasting purposes.
Pails and tubs.
Patent medicines, non-alcoholic.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

DOMINION OF CANADA—*continued.*

Photographic dry plates.
Soap, of all kinds.
Powder.
Detonators.
Confectionery, of all kinds.
Baking powder.
Postum cereal.
Grape nuts.
Shredded wheat biscuits, and other breakfast foods.
Almond paste.
Gun wads.
Sen sen.
Plumbers' earthenware.
Stove polish.
Grass mats.
Linoleum and oil cloth.
Linseed oil.
Paper.
Glass bottles.
Bon ami scouring soap.
Card games (such as playing cards, &c.).
Games (such as parcheesi, halma, soldier boy, &c., made of straw board and card board).
Antiseptic gauze.
Hermetically sealed tube dressings.
Absorbent cotton.
Absorbent lint.
Antiseptic jute.
Antiseptic oakum.
Antiseptic sponges.
Antiseptic zimocca sponges.
Antiseptic abdominal sponges.
Ashton's abdominal absorbent pads.
Ashton's laparotomy set.
Antiseptic absorbent cotton mops.
Ligatures and sutures.
Surgeons' twisted silk.
Surgeons' braided silk.
Pure white braided silk.
"Cable twist" surgeons' silk.
Lawson Taite's silk.
Raw twisted surgeons' silk.
Plaster Paris bandages.
Bandages, double or tabular stockinette.
Grey open woven bandages.
Unbleached roller bandages.
Washed and ironed roller bandages.
Antiseptic gauze absorbing bandages.
Medicated gauze bandages.
Heavy crinolin bandages.
Flannel bandages.
Rubber bandages.
Esmarch's triangular bandage.
First aid packets.
Elastic hosiery, belt and supporters.
Elastic stockings, trusses.
Tom-Thumb jujubes.
Sa Yo mint jujubes.
Indelible ink.
Licorice pastilles.
Iodide of potassium.
Flat iron and steel bars, all sizes, up to and including 10 in. in width, and up to 1½ in. in thickness.
Round steel, up to 5 in. in diameter.
Polished shafting, up to 5 in. in diameter.
Square bars, up to 12 in. square.
Car axles.
Steel sections, such as plough beams, channel steel, binder bars, tee bars, cutter bars, small channels, rake teeth, concave and convex sleigh shoe steel, drill hoe points, bevel edge bars, riffle bars, tie plate, special fish plate, angle bars, half rounds, half

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

DOMINION OF CANADA—*continued.*

ovals, ovals, toe caulk sections, half round shaft steel, channel sleigh shoe steel, spring steel, sleigh shoe steel, tire steel, machine steel, harrow tooth steel, polished shafting.
Forging, all kinds of shape work.
Iron or steel washers.
Lead pipe.
Wire, all kinds, sizes and gauges.
Bale ties.
Wire nails.
Sash pins.
Escutcheon pins.
Spikes, wrought and wire, all kinds and sizes.
Bolts, all kinds and sizes.
Coach screws.
Lag screws.
Nuts.
Washers.
Rivets, all kinds and sizes.
Picture frame points.
Felloe plates.
Tacks, all kinds and sizes, including nails, rivets for shoemakers' use.
Staples, all kinds and sizes.
Tufting buttons.
White lead (ground in oil).
Putty.
Shot, all kinds and sizes.
Refined sugar imported after November 23rd, 1904, (except sugar refined in a British country granted tariff preference by Canada).

NOTE.—The above lists do *not comprise all* the articles subject to Special Duty, but only articles on which decisions of the Department have been requested.

Regulations affecting Importation of Malt and Spirituous Liquors into the Yukon Territory.

A copy of the "Canada Gazette" for 7th January, 1905, has been received, containing an Ordinance, dated 22nd June, 1904, respecting the importation into the Yukon Territory of malt, and spirituous or intoxicating liquors or other intoxicants, and traffic therein.

The Ordinance provides that fees shall be paid by persons importing any liquor or intoxicant (except ale, porter, beer and lager beer, which may be admitted free) into the Yukon Territory as follows:—

		Dols.	Cents.
Still wines	per gallon	0	50
All other malt, spirituous or intoxicating liquors or intoxicants ...	„	2	00

The above fees may be reduced by the Commissioner of the Yukon Territory if he considers it necessary to do so in order to better regulate the traffic in such liquors or intoxicants. Application must be made in writing to the Commissioner for permission to import malt or spirituous or intoxicating liquors, specifying in

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

DOMINION OF CANADA—*continued.*

such application the number of gallons and description of the liquor to be imported.

No person, except the holder of a wholesale or retail licence issued under the provisions of the "Liquor Licence Ordinance" (Chapter 76 of the Consolidated Ordinances of the Yukon Territory), may import such liquors, except permission has been obtained from the Commissioner that they are for his own use and that the above fees have been paid.

The present Ordinance was published in the "Gazette" under date of 7th January, 1905.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

Customs Decisions.

The "Commonwealth Gazette" for the 10th and 24th December, 1904, contains Customs Decisions (Supplements Nos. 38 and 39 to the Customs Tariff Guide) issued by the Commonwealth Department of Trade and Customs respecting the rates of duty leviable on various articles imported into the Australian Commonwealth.

The following are the principal Decisions given in the supplements:—

Articles, and how classed.	Rate of Duty.
SUPPLEMENT No. 38.	
Banding, woven (with or without trade mark or name) for boots and shoes—	
As minor articles for boots and shoes	Free
Buttons, definition of, under Item 114 of Tariff—	
All buttons comsisting wholly or in part of precious metals or imitation thereof, and those with precious stones (inclusive of less valuable stones such as cornelian, agate, &c.) or imitation thereof—	
As jewellery	25 % *ad val.*
Cards – post, being post-card painting book containing post-cards capable of use—	
As manufactured stationery...	25 % „
Cocoa, malted—	
As cocoa and chocolate, ground, &c.	1*d.* per lb.
Coins, old, not being current coin—	
As fancy goods	20 % *ad val.*
[NOTE.—These articles will be assessed for duty purposes at their intrinsic value only, and not at their historic or sentimental value. Value for duty will be determined by the actual weight of the metal of which the coin is made.]	
Combs, silver or gold mounted, used with brushes (toilet)—	
As brushware and combs, toilet, &c.	15 % „
Egg albumen and egg yolk, or both combined, when imported into the Commonwealth, in fresh or liquid form shall be subject to duty as follows—	
For every 22·9 ounces of either egg albumen or egg yolk, or both combined, duty to be charged as equal to one dozen eggs	6*d.* per doz.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—*continued.*

Articles, and how classed.	Rates of Duty.
*Egg albumen, egg yolk, whole egg—	
The following shall be the standards according to which duty shall be charged on the undermentioned articles when in dried or concentrated form—	
Whole egg (without shell) ... 6·03 ozs. = 1 doz. fresh eggs.	
Egg albumen ... ... 3·25 " = " "	
Egg yolk ... ...11·38 " = " "	
*Grease, crude wool—in packages not exceeding 4 lbs. in weight—	
As greases, &c. (83 A)...	4*s.* per cwt.
Grease, n.e.i.—	
As greases, &c., n.e.i. (83 B)	2*s.* "
Grease, crude wool (lanoline)—	
As perfumery	20 % *ad val.*
Kerosene—all high-testing petroleum illuminating oil—	
As oils, kerosene	Free
Screens, fly or wire, for windows and doors—	
As wicker, wood, &c., manufactures of	20 % *ad val.*
Soap paper, consisting of paper coated with soap—	
As soap, perfumed, toilet, &c.	3*d.* per lb.
Sponges, rubber, with rubber strap or band for the hand—	
As indiarubber manufactures	15 % *ad val.*
Sweepers, pony lawn—	
As agricultural implements	12½ % "
Tapioca, flaked—	
As tapioca	4*s.* per cental.
Wheat, flaked—	
As grain, prepared	½*d.* per lb.
SUPPLEMENT No. 39.	
Arginold, iron—	
As medicines	15 % *ad val.*
Bars, stallion, without chains—	
As manufactures of metals, n.e.i.	20 % "
Bevelling and skiving machine for saddlers' use—	
As tools of trade	Free
NOTE.—This is not strictly a "machine," although so named.	
Binding for skirts, consisting of braid and velvet sewn together, and braids, for apparel—	
As minor articles for apparel	Free
Books, painting, for children—	
As books, printed, &c.	Free
Buckets, folding hand pump, for fire brigade use—	
As manufactures of metals, n.e.i.	20 % *ad val.*
Buttons, silk—	
As minor articles for apparel	Free.
Covers, table (paper)—	
As manufactured stationery...	25 % *ad val.*
Feathers, undressed, for stuffing pillows or bolsters—	
As "other articles"	Free
Gauges, wire	
As tools of trade	Free
Glass, plate, coloured, used for table tops, wall facing, mortuary tables, &c.—	
As glass, n.e.i.	15 % *ad val.*

* Revised decision.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—*continued.*

Articles and how classed.	Rates of Duty.
Leather, rough tan split skiving—	
As leather (Div. xii (*c*))	Free
Lime juice and other fruit juices and fruit syrups are to be admitted as non-spirituous when the amount of proof spirit contained therein does not exceed 2 per cent.	9*d.* per gall.
Nets, life saving—	
As cordage and twines, n.e.i.	20 % *ad val.*
Salt—weight in bulk—	
Actual net weight, unless bags or invoice show reputed weight.	
Veneers, with paper pasted on one side—	
As "other timber"	Free

Customs Duty on Solidified Cocoanut Oil.

The "Gazette" for 24th December last also contains a Customs Notice, dated 21st December, 1904, stating that "solidified cocoanut oil" shall be charged with duty as "butter" (*i.e.*, at the rate of 3*d.* per lb.) on importation into the Australian Commonwealth.

Importation of Minor Articles for Bedsteads.

A Customs By-Law, dated 17th December, 1904, also appears in the same "Gazette," notifying that "rings, stamped and spun for use in the manufacture of bedsteads" within the Commonwealth may be imported free.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA.

Rebate of Duty on Goods Exported.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Colonial Office, a copy of Government Notice (No. 200 of 1904) cancelling from August 12th, 1904, Government Notice No. 202 of 1903, and at the same time notifying that a rebate of the whole of the Customs duty on goods imported or warehoused on importation into Southern Rhodesia will be allowed whenever such goods are exported to places outside the Customs Union.

It is provided, however, that in respect of goods entered on or after 12th August, 1904, for export to Barotziland (North-Western Rhodesia), a rebate of only *one-fourth* of the Customs duty will be refunded or allowed to the owners of the following goods :—

Tariff item in Ordinance No. 6 of 1903.	Articles.
1	Ale, beer and cider.
4	Beads, known as "Kaffir Beads."
30 and Sec. 7	Spirits.
33	Tobacco.
35	Wine.
37	Blankets and sheets, or rugs, cotton or woollen, or manufactures of cotton and wool, commonly used as cotton or woollen blankets or rugs, the single article, in pairs or in the piece; and coats, jackets, or other apparel made of blanketing or baize.
47 and 144	Shawls.
	All goods customarily imported for native trade.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

EGYPT.

New Wharfage Dues.

The Egyptian "Journal Officiel" for the 14th January contains the text of a Khedivial Decree fixing the periods of time to be granted for the removal of various kinds of goods deposited on the wharves of Alexandria, except goods of which delivery has been taken by the Customs, or those deposited on sites hired for the purpose; and providing for the imposition of an "occupation tax" (*droit d'occupation*) on merchandise remaining on the wharves after the expiration of the period fixed.

This Decree may be seen by persons interested on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

Valuations for Coal and Sugars.

The same issue of the "Journal Officiel" contains revised Valuation Tariffs for coal *in transit* and for the assessment of import duties on various kinds of sugar. The valuations for coal are the same as those contained in the notice which appeared in the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 19th January, with the exception that those for South Wales coal, and for French, Belgian, or German coal, are reduced to 820 and 790 millièmes per metric ton respectively. As regards sugar, the new valuations, which were to come into operation on the 14th January, and to remain in force until the 28th April, or until denunciation, are as follow:—

Kinds of Sugar.	Valuation per 100 kilogs.†
	Millièmes.‡
Crystallised or moist, from Russia, in single or double bags (gross weight)	1,430
Crystallised or moist, from all countries other than Russia, in single or double bags (gross weight)	1,600
Powdered or centrifugal, of any origin	1,640
Crushed, of any origin	1,740
Cubes, of any origin, in boxes (net weight)	1,900
Loaves " " "	1,920

Valuation Tariff for Black Pepper.

The Tariff Valuation for black pepper has also been fixed for the period from 20th January to 19th June next as follows:—

	Per kilog. Millièmes.‡
Black pepper of any origin (net weight with a tare of 2 per cent. for single bags, and 3 per cent. for double bags)	48

† Duty is levied on these valuations at the rate of 8 per cent.
‡ 1,000 millièmes = £E 1 = 1*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

FRENCH INDO-CHINA.

Consumption Duty on Salt.

The "Journal Officiel de l'Indo-Chine Française" for the 1st December last contains the text of a Decree fixing the consumption duty on salt in Indo-China at 2 piastres* per 100 kilogs. (1*s.* 11¼*d.* per cwt.).

SPAIN.

Rate of Exchange for Adjustment of Customs Duties payable in Gold.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 1st February contains a Royal Order notifying that the average rate of exchange (premium of exchange on Paris) during the second fortnight of January was 32·01 per cent., and that the corresponding reduction of the rate of Customs duty payable in gold during the first fortnight of the present month is to be 24 per cent.

ITALY.

Forthcoming Tariff Alterations.

The following statement shows the principal alterations in the Italian Tariff which are to come into force on the 1st July next as a consequence of the new commercial treaty between Italy and Switzerland, the ratification of which was notified in the issue of the "Journal" for the 2nd February.

The Tariff schedule of the new treaty specifying the duties to be leviable in Italy on various articles of Swiss production or manufacture is accompanied by a large number of explanatory notes, relating to the classification and tariff treatment of different descriptions of goods. In many cases these notes merely continue the existing conventional treatment, or guarantee the continuance of the existing practice of the Italian Customs, with little or no alteration. Such notes are not in all cases quoted in the following statement; but the complete text of the Treaty, with its tariff Annexes, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

It is to be understood that the rates of duty shown in the following statement as coming into force from the 1st July next will be extended to imports into Italy from the United Kingdom, as well as to imports from Switzerland, in virtue of the existing Anglo-Italian commercial treaty. It is possible, however, that these rates may still be subject to further modification as the result of Italian commercial negotiations with Germany, Austria-Hungary, or other countries.

* Piastre = 2 frs. 40 cts., at present official rate of exchange.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ITALY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Description of Articles.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs. At present.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs. From 1st July.
		Lire. cts.	Lire. cts.
Ex 16	Confectionery and sweetmeats containing sugar	100 00	No change.*
Ex 16	Milk, in blocks or loaves of at least 10 kilogs.—		
	Not containing added sugar	15 00	10 00*
	Containing added sugar—		
	Up to 40 per cent.	80 00	40 00*
	From 41 to 60 per cent.	125 00	60 00*
Ex 16	Milk, condensed or concentrated, containing added sugar not exceeding 40 per cent. ...	80 00	40 00*
Ex 17	Farinaceous milk foods, containing added sugar not exceeding‡ 33 per cent.	†42 00	†33 00*
19*b*	Cocoa, crushed, ground, or in paste	100 00	60 00
20	Chocolate, *including milk chocolate*... ...	130 00	90 00*
Ex 59	Carbide of calcium	10 00	4 00
Ex 59	Perchloride of tin, liquid or dry (*zinnsalz*)...	4 00	¶No change.
78	Dyes derived from coal tar or other bituminous substances	Free.	No change.
	NOTE.—Tar dyes (aniline, naphthaline, resorcine, anthracine dyes; Vidal dyes) are included under No. 78, even when they contain substances (*e.g.*, chloride of sodium in a proportion not exceeding 50 per cent., acetic acid, dextrine, sulphate of sodium, &c.), the addition of which is solely intended to reduce or fix their shade, to prevent their precipitation in the bath, or otherwise to increase their utility.‖		
83*b*	Ink, other than printing ink	15 00	No change.

* Duties to be proportionately reduced if the Italian sugar duty is reduced. In the event of such reduction, chocolate is to be taken as containing 50 per cent. of sugar.

† *Or* composite duty on flour and sugar contents, at importer's option.

‡ 40 per cent., in existing tariff.

‖ In accordance with existing practice, except that "Vidal black" and other aniline dyes containing sulphides are dutiable at the rate of 10 lire per 100 kilogs.

¶ Duty previously applicable only to perchloride of tin in the *dry* state.

General Notes to Textile Categories.

In counting the number of threads in tissues of all kinds, no account is taken of the selvages. [The existing Customs practice is only to count the threads in close-woven selvages in the case of tissues, such as trouserings and umbrella-coverings, the selvages of which are not cut at the time of their manufacture]. In counting the number of threads in handkerchiefs, or in umbrella or sunshade coverings, no account is taken of the borders. [In the existing Convention, this disposition applies only to cotton umbrella or sunshade coverings].

Handkerchiefs and other articles with open-worked hems of all kinds made by the Gegauf or other sewing machines are not considered as embroidered. These articles pay the conventional duty on the tissue, increased by the conventional surtaxes for making up. [In the existing Customs practice, certain open-worked hems are required to pay the surtax for hem-stitched embroidery, 260 lire per 100 kilogs.].

(*The remaining general notes to the textile categories introduce no alteration.*).

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ITALY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Description of Articles.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs. At present.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs. From 1st July.
	Hemp, linen, jute, &c.—	Lire cts.	Lire cts.
Ex 94 & 95	Transmission-belts and hose-pipes—		
	(1) Impregnated with oil or other greasy substance, even with the addition of colouring substances ...	30 00	30 00
	(2) Other	66 40	60 00
Ex 95 (*b*)	Linen tissues, lye-washed or bleached, plain, having in warp and weft, in a square of 6 mm.—		
	More than 10 but not more than 26 threads	66 40	No change.
	More than 26 but not more than 45 threads	84 00	"
Ex 95 (*e*)	Linen tissues, figured or damasked, lye-washed or bleached	Duty on plain tissues, without surtax.	Conventional duty on plain tissues, lye-washed or bleached.
Ad 95 (*f*)	*General note relating to embroidered tissues.* (Also applies to cotton, silk, and woollen embroidered tissues)—		
	(1) The material, quality, and colour of the thread used in embroidering (if that thread be of some textile substance), are not taken into account in the tariff classification of embroideries and embroidered articles.*		
	(2) The needlework surtax for handkerchiefs, flounces, and other similar articles, of cotton or linen tissue, embroidered, merely hemmed, is fixed at 15 lire per 100 kilogs.†		
	(3) Chemical lace (*dentelles chimiques, broderies aériennes*) is dutiable at the appropriate conventional rate,‡ even when in the form of galloons or "*motifs*," and even if pieced on or appliquéd by embroidery or sewing.		
	(4) The conventional duties under these headings are applicable to embroideries and embroidered tissues even when these are festooned or scalloped (*ritagliati*).‖		
	(5) Tissues (tulle, muslin, tarlatan, gauze, estamine, &c.) lightly attached to embroideries, and serving only to preserve them, are free of duty.¶		

* Agrees generally with existing practice; but cotton, linen, or woollen tissues embroidered over the whole or the greater part of their surface with silk are dutiable as embroideries on half-silk tissues.

† The existing conventional surtax is 10 per cent. for cotton handkerchiefs, and (generally) 40 per cent. for the other articles mentioned.

‡ *See* No. 118 (*b*) 1 and 159 (*b*) 2. "Chemical lace" is at present dutiable as "lace."

‖ Agrees with existing practice.

¶ These are at present dutiable at the same rates as the embroideries themselves.

(*To be continued.*)

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

VENEZUELA.

Restrictions on the Sale of Patent Medicines.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a translation of a Venezuelan Decree, published in the Official Gazette for the 15th December, on the subject of the sale of patent medicines in Venezuela.

The sale of patent or secret medicines which are not authorised by the Medical Council, even though approved by foreign faculties, is now prohibited in Venezuela. The Decree accordingly provides for the establishment of a Commission to undertake the examination and classification of such medicines. Manufacturers of foreign patent medicines must submit the products they wish to import into Venezuela to this Commission within four months from the date of publication of the Decree. The application, which may be presented personally or by attorney, must be in the customary legal form, and must state the name of the article, the principal ingredient, and the dose to be taken; and should be accompanied by two samples of the article with the same information on the label. Each application—one for each product submitted—will be subject to a fee of 20 bolivars, and the power of attorney must bear a 5-bolivar stamp.

Four months from the date of publication of this Decree unauthorised patent medicines will be classified by the Customs in the 5th class of the Tariff for a period of two months, during which time they may still be submitted to the Commission; this term expired, they will be included in the list of articles prohibited to be imported. Secret or patent medicines subsequently compounded, however, will be examined and classified by the Commission in accordance with the regulations.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

New Valuation Tariff.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy of a new Valuation Tariff for the assessment of Customs duties in the Argentine Republic, which came into force on the 1st January.

Numerous modifications of the former valuations have been introduced, and a number of new classifications made. Lower valuations have been set upon various articles which come under the headings of textiles, hardware, earthenware, glass, and drugs. On the other hand, certain kinds of ready-made clothing are valued at a higher rate than in the former Tariff.

The new Valuation Tariff may be seen by persons interested on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

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SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—QUEENSLAND.

Freight Rates on Government Railways.

The "Queensland Government Gazette" of 22nd December publishes the text of a bye-law made by the Commissioner of Railways for regulating the carriage of goods and live-stock on the Queensland Government Railways.

The "Gazette," which contains also full particulars of the rates chargeable under the new bye-law, may be examined at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Pilotage Exemption: Marine Survey Fees.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Colonial Office, a copy of bye-laws recently enacted by the Marine Board of South Australia regarding (1) the issue of certificates for exemption from pilotage in South Australian ports; and (2) the scale of fees to be charged by marine surveyors in South Australia. Both these bye-laws took effect from the 1st December, 1904.

The full text of the bye-laws may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

New Railways in 1904.

According to the "Railroad Gazette," official returns from the majority of the railway companies in the United States, supplemented by figures furnished by the State Railroad Commissions, show that approximately 3,832 miles of new main railway track were built in the United States during the calendar year 1904. These figures do not include second track, sidings, or electric lines. The falling off from 1903 amounts to about 33 per cent.

Output of Cars and Locomotives in 1904.

Returns received by the "Gazette" from practically every car building plant in the country show that approximately 62,950 cars were built in 1904, including cars for use on elevated railways, but exclusive of street and other electric cars. These figures do not include cars built by the railway companies at their own shops. Of the above total, approximately 60,806 were goods waggons and 2,144 passenger cars; 60,955 were for domestic use and 1,995 for export.

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Shipping and Transport.

During the year 1904 the "Gazette" says that 3,441 locomotives were built at the various locomotive plants in the country, against 5,152 in 1903. The number given includes 95 electric locomotives. *The figures do not include locomotives built by the railway companies at their own shops.*

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—VENEZUELA.

New S.S. Line.

The New York "Journal of Commerce" of 16th January states that the Hamburg-American Line (Atlas line service) intend to establish a direct service from New York to Venezuelan ports commencing in February. The ports of call will be Curacao, La Guayra and Puerto Cabello, and the service is to be monthly both ways. The sailings will be arranged to connect with a coastwise service recently established, taking in the ports of Maracaibo, La Guayra, Puerto Cabello, Guanta, Cumana and Carupano. It is thought that the coastwise line will be extended up the Orinoco to Ciudad Bolivar, which is the entrepot of trade for the Orinoco valley. The Hamburg-American Line at present run a monthly service from Hamburg to Porto Rican and Venezuelan ports, and it is likely that the new line from New York will prove to be simply an extension of that service, the steamers continuing the voyage to New York from Venezuela instead of returning to Hamburg. Steamers from New York to Venezuelan ports will probably proceed to Hamburg from there. By the new line through bills of lading may be had to every important port in Venezuela.

COSTA RICA.

Damage to Costa Rica Railway.

With reference to the announcement in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 5th January last, p. 31, reporting damage to the Costa Rica Railway by floods and landslides, H.M. Consul at San José (Mr. F. Nutter Cox), in a despatch to the Foreign Office, confirms his telegraphic report and states that it is officially reported to the Government by the railway management that under favourable conditions, through traffic between Limon and San José may not be resumed for two months, although passengers will be able to get through earlier by transfer over the gaps.

The best division, serving the banana districts, will be open for traffic sooner. The mails, meanwhile, are sent *viâ* Punta Arenas and Panama, and a considerable proportion of the coffee crop will go the same way.

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MINERALS, METALS, AND MACHINERY.

NATAL.

Asbestos Deposits. Samples on view.

With reference to the notice on p. 100 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 20th October respecting a reward offered by the Natal Government for the manufacture of slate and millboard in that Colony from Natal asbestos, a despatch has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from their Correspondent at Durban (Mr. A. D. C. Agnew) forwarding samples of asbestos found in Natal. It is stated that the lode from which these samples were taken can be traced for a distance of four miles, its width varying from 6 in. to 3 ft. 6 in.

Mr. Agnew adds that coal is found in the neighbourhood of the lode; an ample water supply is available, and native labour is plentiful. The nearest railway line is distant about 35 miles.

The samples may be inspected at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

TRANSVAAL.

Gold Production in 1904.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from their correspondent at Johannesburg (Mr. R. H. Brand) the following statement of the gold production for the year 1904, to which, for the purpose of comparison, have been added the figures for the preceding year:—

—	1903.		1904.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	ozs.	£	ozs.	£
Witwatersrand	2,859,482	12,146,309	3,658,241	15,539,219
Outside districts	104,277	442,940	121,380	515,590
Total... ...	2,963,759	12,589,249	3,779,621	16,054,809

GERMANY.

Pig-iron production in 1904.

The "Frankfurter Zeitung" publishes the following figures showing the production of pig-iron in Germany in 1904 compared with previous years:—

Year.	Metric tons.
1900	8,520,540
1901	7,880,081
1902	8,402,660
1903	10,085,634
1904	10,103,941

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

GERMANY—*continued.*

The shares of the various producing districts in 1904 compared with 1900 were as follows:—

—	1900.	1904.
	Metric tons.	Metric tons.
Rhenish-Westphalia	3,270,373	4,015,821
Siegerland, District of Lahn, and Hesse-Nassau ...	739,895	587,032
Silesia and Pomerania	847,648	968,618
Kingdom of Saxony	25,598	—
Hanover and Brunswick	344,012	347,635
Bavaria, Wurtemberg, and Thuringia	143,777	164,190
District of Saar, Lorraine, and Luxemburg	3,051,539	4,020,645

Coal Production in 1904.

The subjoined particulars of the coal production of Germany in 1904 as compared with the previous year, are taken from the "Nachrichten für Handel und Industrie" of the 21st January:—

—	Coal.		Lignite.		Coke.		Briquettes.	
	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Prussia ...	108,989,379	112,808,409	33,460,232	41,126,856	11,446,652	12,268,436	9,173,681	10,102,478
Bavaria ...	1,360,901	1,341,314	16,539	52,318	—	—	—	—
Saxony ...	4,698,458	4,794,295	1,828,159	1,915,135	62,607	62,727	277,190	300,897
Other States ...	1,615.138	1,750,080	5,650,628	5,405,913	—	—	1,025,299	1,010,092
Total...	116,664,376	120,694,098	45,955,558	48,500,222	11,509,259	12,331,163	10,476,170	11,413,467

The total imports of coal from the United Kingdom amounted to 5,808,032 tons in 1904, as compared with 5,393,828 tons in 1903 and 5,191,869 tons in 1902.

NOTE.—The ton mentioned is the metric ton of 2,204 lbs.

CHILE.

Copper Mining Industry of Coquimbo.

In a report to the Foreign Office on the trade of Coquimbo for the year 1903, H.M. Consul at that port (Mr. G. L. Ansted) writes:—

"Mining, and copper mining especially, as being the principal industry of the province, fails to keep up with the times, and it is evident that an amount of effort is continually being wasted in operations which, if concentrated and directed with skill, should give far more favourable returns. The habits of the mining population, however, militate against concentration, and the miners prefer independence, and the hard living often entailed thereby, so long as the least prospect of luck is held out, to regular work and regular wages in the service of others."

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AGRICULTURE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Corn Prices.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 4th February, 1905, were as follow:—

Wheat	30*s.*	6*d.*
Barley	25*s.*	0*d.*
Oats	16*s.*	7*d.*

For further particulars see p. 284.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

A statement is published on p. 285, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 4th February, 1905, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1904.

CANADA—UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Tomato Pack of 1904.

The "American Grocer" states that the quantity of tomatoes packed in Canada during 1904 amounted to 297,750 cases of two dozen tins each, as compared with 397,500 cases in 1903. The quantity packed in the United States of America, according to the same authority, amounted to 8,671,053 cases in 1904, as compared with 10,282,309 in 1903.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

Wheat Harvest of New South Wales.

According to the "Town and Country Journal" (Sydney), Mr. Coghlan, the New South Wales Government Statistician, estimates the current wheat harvest of New South Wales at 16,121,490 bushels. Allowing 8,000,000 bushels for food, and 2,000,000 bushels for seed, it will be seen that the surplus will amount to over 6,000,000 bushels, while stocks of old wheat are still available in parts of New South Wales. As, however, some of the current harvest is much pinched, Mr. Coghlan puts the exportable surplus at about 5,000,000 bushels.

TRANSVAAL—ORANGE RIVER COLONY.

Appointment of Irrigation Commission.

The "Transvaal Government Gazette" of 13th January notifies the appointment of a Joint Commission of the Transvaal and Orange River Colonies to report on the best means of carrying out irrigation works in those Colonies.

The "Gazette," which sets out in detail the scope of the enquiries to be made by the Commission, may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

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Agriculture.

BRAZIL.

Measures for the Development of Agriculture and Sericulture.

On p. 281 will be found particulars of the Budget expenditure of Brazil for 1905, in which provision is made, *inter alia*, for the disbursement of certain sums on plants and seeds for distribution, blood stock, the establishment of an experimental farm, and sericulture.

ARGENTINA.

Cotton Cultivation in Tucuman.

The "Review of the River Plate" of 16th December states that Mr. C. M. Uzal, Principal of the Elementary Agricultural School, Tucuman, has furnished an extensive report to the Agricultural Department of that province on the experimental plantations of cotton made this past season, containing the following information:—

The province of Tucuman, by its geographical situation, is eminently suited for the cultivation of cotton. Three varieties were planted, Sea Island, Russel and Peterkin. The regions most favourable for the growth of cotton are said to be those in which the spring time is warm, with no fear of late frosts, the summer hot, in autumn a regular temperature not subject to heavy or prolonged rains. Probably no other district of Argentina so well fulfils all these requirements as the province of Tucuman. The temperatures of the various months are worked out to prove the exactness of this assertion, as also the rainfall. As regards the properties of the soil, an extensive analysis goes to show an ideal conformity with that of South Carolina and Georgia. The experimental plantings were made in October, 1903, on a system which necessitated some 6 to 7 kilos. of seed per hectare. On the 15th May, 1904, the cotton picking commenced, and, owing to the scarcity of pickers, it was not concluded till 27th July. The yield of the different varieties per hectare was:—Peterkin, 456 kilos. (182 kilos. fibre and 274 kilos. seed); Russel, 1,128 kilos. (451 kilos. fibre and 677 kilos. seed); Sea Island, 520 kilos. (208 kilos. fibre and 312 kilos. seed). The average yield per hectare in the United States is 400 kilos., so that only the Russel variety has given anything approaching that yield.

Mr. Uzal considers the Russel variety the only one worth cultivating at present, for the reason that it finds a ready market in Argentina for local requirements. The standard varieties required for export, Peterkin and Sea Island, he does not anticipate will prove very successful in Tucuman, at least not for some years yet. Experiments with these will be continued and perhaps in a few seasons a method of successfully cultivating these finer classes will be found that will fit in with the soil and climatic conditions of the Province.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Cotton Statistics. The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 2nd February, 1905, was 117,806 (including 38 bales British West African and 35 bales British West Indian) and the number imported during the 5 weeks ended the 2nd February was 622,200. As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 2nd February, 1905, 9,625 bales and for the 5 weeks, 71,204.

For further details see p. 284.

A return showing the number of bales of cotton imported and exported, forwarded from ports to Inland towns, and returned to ports during the month ended 31st January last, will be found on p. 283.

Emigration. The number of emigrants that left the United Kingdom during the month of January, 1905, was 22,754, as compared with 15,952 during the corresponding month of 1904.

For further details see p. 286.

SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE.

Trade in 1903-4. In the report on the trade, &c., of the Somaliland Protectorate for the year ended 31st March last, submitted by H.M. Commissioner, the following table is given showing the total imports and exports (including specie) of the Protectorate, distinguishing the share of each of the ports of Zaila, Berbera and Bulhar, Karam and Heis :—

—	1901-2.		1902-3.		1903-4.	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Zaila	25,45,200	26,90,813	15,40,939	17,61,076	16,14,453	15,52,659
Berbera and Bulhar	27,82,422	25,43,216	28,82,414	22,72,233	46,41,676	36,17,199
Karam	9,919	8,635	24,499	21,986	41,773	30,467
Heis	—	—	1,46,849	97,283	1,71,243	83,618
Total	53,37,541	52,42,664	45,94,701	41,52,578	64,69,145	52,83,943

The Acting Sub-Commissioner at Zaila reports that the increase of 73,514 rupees in the import trade of that port, as compared with the previous year, is due to the Jibouti Railway having been closed for about a month, part of the line being washed away. The

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Miscellaneous.

decrease in the export trade is solely due to the fact that the carriage by the Jibouti Railway is cheaper and quicker than transport by the Zaila-Harar caravan.

The Acting Deputy Commissioner at Berbera and Bulhar points out that the very considerable increase in imports shown in this year's returns for Berbera and Bulhar cannot be taken as indicating a healthy and flourishing condition of the trade of the ports. The contrary is, unfortunately, the fact. The excess of imports over exports is entirely due to the continued presence of the Somaliland Field Force.

With regard to the trade of Zaila, the Acting Sub-Commissioner (Mr. Power) reports as follows:—

"As the Zaila trade depends mostly on Harar, the decrease can be put down to the Jibouti Railway. The railway of course, conveys the goods in a far quicker time from the coast to Harar and *vice versâ* than is possible by the Zaila-Harar caravan, the freight is cheaper and the goods are not exposed to damage by rain, &c., on the road.

"At the same time I do not consider that the difference of time or the safety of the goods *en route* has had much to do with a large portion of the Zaila trade going to Jibouti; but the cheaper freight, together with the advantages mentioned, simply defies competition. Except in the case of perishable goods, the traders appear comparatively indifferent as to the time their goods take to arrive at their destination." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,321.)

BRAZIL.

Budget Expenditure for 1905.

The "Diario Official" of Brazil of 15th January publishes the text of the Budget expenditure for 1905, approved by Congress on 31st December. The principal items of interest are summarised below:—

The Ministry of Marine is authorised to expend 670,000 milreis on the construction of submarine vessels built on the plans of Brazilian inventors.

The Ministry of Industry, Railways, and Public Works is authorised to expend:—100,000 milreis on plants and seeds for distribution; 200,000 milreis on animals for stock-breeding purposes, to be acquired abroad or in Brazil; 30,000 milreis on furthering the application of alcohol to industrial purposes; 75,000 milreis for the completion of works on the Thereza Christina Railway, and for carrying out the necessary studies for the construction of the Massiambúe-Ararangua line; 35,000 milreis for dredging works at the port of Natal; 100,000 milreis on the establishment at Santa Monica, State of Rio de Janeiro, of an experimental farm with a chemical laboratory attached for the analysis of soils, &c.; 10,000 milreis for premiums to sericulturists, to be awarded at the rate of 1 milreis per kilog. for the production

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Miscellaneous.

BRAZIL—*continued.*

of native cocoons; 60,000 milreis for the encouragement of the silk industry, including 45,000 milreis to be awarded to the first two factories which undertake to use none but native cocoons; 300,000 milreis on the improvement of the navigation of various rivers; 800,000 milreis on elevating the S. Diogo-S. Christovão section of the Central Railway; 250,000 milreis on the development of the coal mines of Brazil, it being proposed to make use of native coal as far as possible on the Central Railway, the Federal railways, and in other Government departments.

The Minister of Industry, &c., is further authorised to raise a loan for the improvement of the water supply of Rio de Janeiro.

NOTE.—1 milreis = about 1*s.* 2*d.* at present.

Export Trade, First Nine Months, 1904.

The following figures, showing the quantities and values of the principal articles exported from Brazil during the first nine months of 1904, with comparative figures for the corresponding period of the preceding year, are extracted from the "Brazilian Review" of 3rd January:—

Description of Merchandise.	Quantity. First Nine Months. 1903.	Quantity. First Nine Months. 1904.	Value. First Nine Months. 1903.	Value. First Nine Months. 1904.
			£	£
Coffee ... ... Bags	9,165,833	6,689,704	12,754,224	13,125,911
Rubber ... ...Kilos.	22,647,402	22,831,096	6,805,614	7,774,611
Hides and skins ... ... ,,	24,711,387	29,827,932	1,438,711	1,934,641
Cocoa ... ... ,,	13,731,941	16,732,599	675,987	789,076
Tobacco ... ... ,,	21,808,977	21,856,457	889,021	768,130
Herva-mate ... ... ,,	29,243,080	32,383,839	537,985	708,535
Cotton ... ... ,,	24,302,460	10,598,643	1,097,524	700,052
Gold Bar ... ...Gram.	3,240,941	3,299,587	351,128	352,032
Manganese ... ... Tons	131,876	138,419	203,427	203,199
Monazite sands ... ...Kilos.	2,377,200	3,259,880	53,856	73,025
Bran ... ... ,,	13,715,779	16,300,898	62,024	65,680
Lumber	—	—	56,697	60,516
Wool ... ...Kilos.	761,050	969,800	38,351	51,026
Other articles...	—	—	998,389	838,863
Total merchandise	—	—	25,962,938	27,445,297
Specie	—	—	95,776	1,984
Grand total	—	—	26,058,714	27,447,281

Compared with 1903, exports for the first nine months of 1904, show an increase in value of 1,482,359*l.*, or 5·7 per cent., exclusive of specie.

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STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.—January, 1905.

Return of the **Number** of **Bales** of **Cotton Imported** and **Exported, Forwarded** from **Ports** to **Inland Towns**, and **Returned** to **Ports** during the Month ended 31st January, 1905, compared with the corresponding Period of the Year 1904.

	Month ended January.	
	1905.	1904.
	Imports.	
American	422,600	357,827
Brazilian	5,971	13,411
East Indian	7,763	9,683
Egyptian	54,126	61,638
Miscellaneous	12,700*	3,065
Total	503,160	445,624
	Exports.	
American	44,143	45,316
Brazilian	328	1,702
East Indian	1,663	4,484
Egyptian	10,768	15,137
Miscellaneous	234	577
Total	57,136	67,216
	Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns.	
American	278,870	201,560
Brazilian	3,084	5,604
East Indian	5,127	4,140
Egyptian	32,585	41,367
Miscellaneous	2,515	5,500
Total	322,181	258,171
	Forwarded from Inland Towns to Ports.	
American	349	189
Brazilian	—	—
East Indian	—	—
Egyptian	—	—
Miscellaneous	—	—
Total	349	189

* Including 52 bales British West Indian and 135 British West African.

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Cotton Returns—*continued.*

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the Week and 5 Weeks ended 2nd February, 1905.

—	Week ended 2nd Feb., 1905.	5 Weeks ended 2nd Feb., 1905.	Week ended 2nd Feb., 1905.	5 Weeks ended 2nd Feb., 1905.
	Imports. (Bales.)		Exports. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American	97,614	525,432	3,829	51,988
Brazilian	—	5,971	100	328
East Indian	1,281	8,897	374	2,007
Egyptian	17,678	68,049	5,322	16,647
Miscellaneous	1,233*	13,851	—	234
Total	117,806	622,200	9,625	71,204

* Including 38 bales British West African and 35 bales British West Indian.

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 4th February, 1905, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

—	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 4th February, 1905... ...	30	6	25	0	16	7
Corresponding week in—						
1898	35	1	27	8	17	5
1899	26	8	27	2	17	0
1900	25	10	25	3	16	5
1901	26	8	25	7	17	7
1902	27	2	26	9	20	3
1903	25	6	23	9	16	11
1904	26	9	22	4	15	11

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

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Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 4th February, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

—		Week ended 4th Feb., 1905.	*Corresponding Week in 1904.*
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number.	9,255	*12,954*
Sheep and lambs	"	5,920	*10,922*
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	323	*432*
Fresh Meat :—			
Beef	Cwts.	103,992	*75,099*
Mutton	"	124,452	*26,645*
Pork	"	14,466	*14,224*
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Cwts.	109,347	*113,622*
Beef	"	1,397	*2,685*
Hams	"	16,149	*21,720*
Pork	"	5,259	*4,892*
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ...	"	12,512	*8,398*
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting...	"	16,525	*12,303*
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwts.	69,702	*90,379*
Margarine	"	23,098	*17,842*
Cheese	"	26,946	*47,232*
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	*98*
" cream	"	81	*71*
" condensed	"	18,609	*21,009*
" preserved, other kinds...	"	13	*285*
Eggs	Grt. Hundr.	161,197	*266,393*
Poultry	Value £	30,012	*44,793*
Game	"	2,797	*2,385*
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	Cwts.	3,596	*5,089*
Lard	"	46,872	*36,215*
Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—			
Wheat	Cwts.	1,363,900	*1,423,200*
Wheat meal and flour	"	215,500	*563,700*
Barley	"	327,000	*634,700*
Oats	"	149,300	*265,700*
Peas	"	35,740	*51,550*
Beans	"	22,900	*59,090*
Maize or Indian corn	"	1,030,700	*769,300*
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Cwts.	88,218	*90,523*
Apricots and peaches	"	7	*42*
Bananas	Bunches.	57,457	*48,162*
Cherries	Cwts.	—	—
Currants...	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	—	—
Grapes	"	172	*139*
Lemons	"	7,309	*22,231*
Oranges	"	196,617	*154,549*
Pears	"	70	*267*
Plums	"	87	*103*
Strawberries	"	—	—
Unenumerated	"	1,376	*1,566*
Hay...	Tons.	1,185	*2,324*
Straw	"	2,260	*2,369*
Moss Litter*	"	1,612	—
Hops	Cwts.	3,252	*12,057*
Locust Beans	"	40,788	*14,900*
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels.	118,752	*128,127*
Potatoes	Cwts.	42,127	*244,397*
Tomatoes	"	14,597	*4,724*
Unenumerated	Value £	6,921	*8,852*
Vegetables, dried	Cwts.	4,219	*4,311*
Preserved by canning...	"	2,613	*4,269*

* Not shown in 1904.

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Emigration.—January, 1905.

Return of the **Numbers, Nationalities,** and **Destinations*** of the **Passengers** that left the **United Kingdom** for **Places** out of **Europe** during the Month ended 31st January, 1905, compared with the corresponding period of the previous Year.

Nationality.	British Empire.						Foreign Countries.			Grand Total.	*Total for corresponding Period of 1904.*
	British North America.	Australia and New Zealand.	British South Africa.	India, including Ceylon.	Other British Colonies and Possessions.	Total.	United States.	Other Foreign Countries.	Total.		
	Month ended 31st January, 1905.										
English	1,895	859	1,460	323	346	4,883	2,757	430	3,187	8,070	*7,390*
Scotch	121	103	303	27	13	567	515	56	571	1,138	*1,274*
Irish	90	51	86	—	1	228	775	11	786	1,014	*739*
Total of British origin.	2,106	1,013	1,849	350	360	5,678	4,047	497	4,544	10,222	*9,403*
Foreigners	641	23	349	17	24	1,054	10,304	543	10,847	11,901	*5,896*
Nationalities not distinguished	4	—	—	193	144	341	79	211	290	631	*653*
Total	2,751	1,036	2,198	560	528	7,073	14,430	1,251	15,681	22,754	*15,952*
Total for corresponding period, 1904 ...	*2,089*	*995*	*3,190*	*582*	*740*	*7,597*	*7,506*	*919*	*8,425*	*15,952*	

* The destinations given are, in all cases, based on the ports at which the passengers contracted to land.

NOTE.—The above figures being made up at the earliest possible date after the close of the month, are subject to correction in the Annual Returns.

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GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of January, 1905, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance of 8½*d.* per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1903, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s.* 1*d.* for the first, and 5*s.* for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1899–1903, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade on the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appeared in the number issued in January:—State of the Labour Market in December; Changes in Wages and Hours in 1904; Relief of the Unemployed; Co-operation in 1903; Housing Problem in Canada; Irish Migratory Labourers; Industrial Census of Roumania; and Illinois Free Employment Registries.

FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in Consular Reports of the **Annual and Miscellaneous Series** issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

ANNUAL.

No. 3,322. Trade of Tangier and district for 1902.

Steady increase in trade at the ports of Tangier and Larache.

Demand for building materials of all descriptions.

Tables of imports, exports, and shipping.

This publication also contains reports from Laraiche and Tetuan.

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Government Publications.

MISCELLANEOUS.

No. 623. Iron and Steel Exhibits at the St. Louis Exhibition.

Detailed examination of the exhibits of various countries.

From an instructive point of view, the British exhibit of iron and steel industries was the best in the foreign section.

Remarks on imports of cutlery, which show a large increase, in spite of the high tariff.

OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

Commercial No. 1 (1905). *Further Findings of the Permanent Commission established under the Sugar Convention of 5th March,* 1902. [*Cd.* 2,349.] *Price* 2*d.*

This publication contains a report of the proceedings of the International Sugar Commission at their meeting held in Brussels in October last, and copy of correspondence which has taken place on the subject of an appeal lodged by H.M. Government against some decisions arrived at by the Permanent Sugar Commission in regard to the fiscal régime of certain countries.

Final Report of the Royal Commission on Coal Supplies, Part X. Minutes of Evidence. [*Cd.* 2,362.]. *Price* 4*s.* 10*d.* *Part XII.* [*Cd.* 2,364.] *Price* 1*s.* 3*d.*

Part X. of this report contains verbatim the evidence of 34 witnesses examined by the Royal Commission on Coal Supplies, whilst Part XII. contains nine maps and diagrams referred to in the evidence.

The general report of this Commission was referred to on p. 240 of last week's "Journal."

Report of the Departmental Committee appointed by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries to enquire into and report upon the working in Great Britain of the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1893, *with Copies of Minutes appointing the Committee.* [*Cd.* 2,372.] *Price* 4½*d.*

This publication contains the report of the Committee appointed on 23rd July, 1903, to enquire into the working in Great Britain of the above-mentioned Act, the various methods in which it has been administered, and the results which have attended its operation.

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Government Publications.

LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

THE following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since 1st January, 1905, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

No.	Place.	Price	No.	Place.	Price
	EUROPE—			**AMERICA, NORTH—**	
	German Empire and Colonies:			**United States of America:**	
624	*Memorandum on German Cement*	½*d.*	*625*	*Rice Industry in the United States*	2*d.*
	Italy:		*626*	*Iron and Steel Exhibits at the St. Louis Exhibition* ...	2½*d.*
3320	Italy 1903	1½*d.*			
	AFRICA—				
3321	Somaliland Protectorate... ... 1903–04	3*d.*			
3322	Tangier and District ...	1½*d.*			

Treaty Series.

The following number of the Treaty Series issued since the 1st January, 1905, may be obtained from the above-mentioned source:—

No.	———	Price.
1	**WEST INDIES—** **Cuba:** Accession of Cuba to arrangements respecting false indications of origin on goods and the International Registration of Trade Marks	½*d.*

COLONIAL OFFICE REPORTS.

The following Reports relating to H.M. Colonial Possessions issued since 1st January, 1905, may be purchased from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.:—

Annual.

No.	Place.	Price.
—	Cyprus	2½*d.*

Miscellaneous.

No.	Place.	Price.
29	Ceylon. Reports on the results of the Mineral Survey in 1903–4	2½*d.*

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THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH

OF THE

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The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade was established in 1899, in consequence of a report by a Departmental Committee, with a view to meet the constantly increasing demand for prompt and accurate information on commercial matters in the interests of British trade, so far as it can be met by Government action. It is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference. In addition, it is the duty of the Branch, as far as the interests of British Trade permit, to afford information in reply to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

The office is housed at No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., and (subject to the Comptroller-General of the Commercial, Statistical, and Labour Departments of the Board of Trade) is under the direction of Mr. T. Worthington. The Intelligence Branch endeavours, on application being made to it either personally or by letter, to supply information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender; Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c.

In consequence of the transfer of the Imperial Institute to the Board of Trade from the beginning of 1903, the work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Offices of the Imperial Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch is also in communication with the Imperial Institute at South Kensington, of which Professor Wyndham Dunstan, F.R.S., has been appointed director by the Board of Trade. Among the branches of work in charge of Professor Dunstan are the scientific investigation of the economic products of the British Empire with a view to their commercial utilisation, and the superintendence of the arrangement and classification of the Collection of these products which are exhibited at the Institute. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room at 73, Basinghall Street.

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch and intended for general information is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is now issued weekly at the price of 1*d*. Supplements to the "Board of Trade Journal" are issued quarterly, under the title of the "Imperial Institute Bulletin," containing information and reports bearing on the work carried out in the Imperial Institute at South Kensington.

COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT, BOARD OF TRADE.

January, 1905.

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

To Merchants, Manufacturers, and Shippers whose Advertisements appear in the "Board of Trade Journal."

(*Where no folio is given, Advertisement does not appear in this issue.*)

PAGE

Absorbent Blottings—
Tullis, R., & Co., Markinch, Fife 1

Adamantine Clinker (Regd.)—
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...

Admiralty Charts—
Potter, J. D., 145, Minories..

Agents (Colonial & Foreign)—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Agricultural Seeds—
Cooper, Taber & Co., 90 & 92, Southwark Street, S.E. ... 20
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ...

Air Compressors—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

Ale, Beer, and Stout Merchants—
Daukes & Co., Strand, London 6

Alkali Manufacturers—
Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire ... ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Alloys—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

PAGE

Ammonia, Anhydrous, & Liquid—
Brotherton & Co., Leeds (Carbonate of Ammonia, Muriate of Ammonia, &c.)

Ammonia (Anhydrous), Valves for—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Ammunition Manufacturers—
King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham ... ...
Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Antifouling Composition for Ships—
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Anti-friction Metal—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Antimony Paint—
Parker & Lester, London, S.E.

Antiquities in Sundials—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Artists' Colours—
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

PAGE

Athletic Goods Manufacturers—
Quaife Bros. & Lilley, 313, Broad Street, Birmingham

Bags and Sacks—
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool ... ...

Baths, Porcelain, Enamelled (Cast Iron)—
Clark, T. & C., & Co., Wolverhampton ... ...

Bedding—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., South Place, Finsbury, E.C. ...

Bedsteads (Iron and Brass)—
Bott, J. T., Ltd., Glover Street, Birmingham... ...
Evered & Co., London and Birmingham ... ...
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Bordesley, Birmingham, and South Place, Finsbury, E.C.
Hoyland, John, Ltd., Birmingham and London ...

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PAGE

Billiard Table Manufacturers—
Cox & Yeman, London, S.W. 15
Edwards, George, London, N.E. 4

Binoxide of Barium—
Bessler, Waechter & Co., 18 & 19, Fenchurch Street, E.C.
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle ... ...

Bird Seeds and Foods—
Hyde, R., & Co., London, S.E. 21

Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, J., & Son, 58, City Road, E.C.... ... ...

Biscuit Manufacturers—
Hubbard, Walter, Partick, Glasgow. Export Agent—J. S. Morrison, Son & Jones, Peninsular Buildings, London, E.C. ... ...

Blankets—Cotton—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester. C

Bleaching Powder—
Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Blue Manufacturers—
Edge, Wm., & Sons, Ltd., Bolton... 17

PAGE

Boiler Incrustation (Prevention and Removal of)—
The Boilerine Manufacturing Co., Old Kent Road, S.E...
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Boiler Makers—
Butterley Co. (The), Ltd., Derby ... ...
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Garrett, R., & Son, Ltd., Leiston, R.S.O. ... ...
Hartley & Sugden, Ltd., Halifax ... ...
Marriott & Graham, Govan, N.B. ... ...

Boiler Makers and Heating Engineers—
Riley, J. Ashton, Ltd., Manchester Road, Huddersfield

Boiler Tubes—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ... ...

Belts, Nuts and Screws—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 25
Periam, Herb. W., Birmingham (Screws, Rivets, Washers, Nails (Roofing))

Bone Mill Manufacturers—
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable

PAGE

Boots and Shoes—
Lewis, C. & E., Northampton 8

Bottled Fruits—
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...

Brass Finishers—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury

Brassfounders—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Brass Plate Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Brass Scrap Merchants—
Adams, John, & Sons, Newcastle-on-Tyne ... ...

Bread & Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Brick & Tile Manufacturers—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Enamelled and Glazed Bricks, Glazed Wall Tiles) 10
Pearson, E.J. & J., Stourbridge
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Brickmaking Machinery—
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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Bronze Manufacturers— PAGE

Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Brush Manufacturers—

Brison, E., & Co., Bristol ...
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. C

Bulbs—

Cooper, Taber & Co., Ltd., London 20

Bunting Manufacturers—

Riley, E., & Co., Providence Street Mills, Leeds ... ...

Button Manufacturers—

Smith & Wright, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

Cables and Wires—

Connolly Bros., Ltd., Blackley, Manchester ... ...
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Telegraph Manufact'ng Co., Ltd., The, Helsby, Warrington ... ...

Candle Manufacturers— PAGE

Ogston & Tennant, Ltd., Aberdeen ... ...
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Carbolic Acid—

Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Carbonic Acid Gas Valves—

Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Carboys—

Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks ... ...

Carpets and Rugs—

Barton, J. E., & Sons, Kidderminster 2

Carriage Builders—

Forder & Co., Ltd., Warrant Holders to H.M. the King, Upper St. Martin's Lane, W.C.; Works, Wolverhampton 22

Cartridge Manufacturers—

Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Cement Manufacturers—

Peters Bros., London, S.W.... 3
West Kent Portland Cement Co., Burham, nr. Rochester 6

Charm Manufacturers— PAGE

Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Chemical Manufacturers—

Anglo - Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ... ...
Bessler, Waechter & Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Blythe, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs ... ...
Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., Northwich, Cheshire ...
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith ... ...
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle ... ...
Miller, Jas., Son & Co., Glasgow ... ...
The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Chemical Manure Manufacturers—

Anglo - Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ... ...
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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Chemical Manure Manufacturers—*continued*—
Richards, G. H., 234, Borough High Street, S.E. ... ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Chemical & Physical Apparatus—
Reynolds & Branson, Ltd., Leeds ... ...

Chemists (Manufacturing)—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
Scott & Bowne, Ltd., London, E.C. (Scott's Emulsion) ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

Chilled Shot—
The Abbey Improved Chilled Shot Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne ... ...

Chimney Cowl Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester ... 2

Chimney Shaft, &c., Builder and Repairer—
Lewis, Joseph, 5 and 6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. ... ...

China Clay—
Lovering, John, & Co., St. Austell 18

PAGE

China Door Furniture Mnfrs.—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C...

China Electrical Fittings—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C...

China Manufacturers—
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. C
Lovering, John, & Co., St. Austell, Cornwall 18

Chronometers—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....
Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 and 34, Cockspur Street, London... ...

Clocks and Watches—
Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 and 34, Cockspur Street, London... ...
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. C

Cloth Finishing Machines—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee

Clothing (Fustian)—
Brown, R. B., & Sons, Hebden Bridge... 8

Clothing Manufacturers (Fustian)—
Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge C

Clothing and Woollen Mnfrs.—
Grainger & Smith, Dudley ...

PAGE

Cloths for Machinery—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury 26

Clutch Manufacturers—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

Coal and Coke—
Cannock Chase Colliery Co., Ltd., Birmingham ... ...
Cory Bros., & Co., Ltd., Cardiff ... ...
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. ...
Wharncliffe Woodmoor Colliery Co., Ltd., Barnsley...
Wigan Coal and Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan ... ...

Coal Depot Proprietors—
Cory Bros. & Co., Cardiff ...
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. ...

Coal Screening Plant—
Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield ... ...

Coatings—Cotton—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester C

Cocoa and Chocolate Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Coffee Mill Manufacturers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Colliery Engines— PAGE
Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield ... ...

Colliery Owners—
Cannock Chase Colliery Co., The, Ltd., Birmingham ...
Cory Bros. & Co., Cardiff ...
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. ...
Wharncliffe Woodmoor Colliery Co., Ltd., Barnsley...

Colour Manufacturers—
Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen...
Levinstein, Ltd., Manchester
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C.
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Composition for Bottoms of Ships—
Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen...
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...

Compressed Gases (Fittings for)—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Concertinas (English)—
Lachenal & Co., Little James Street, W.C. 6

Confectioners—
Craven, M. A., & Son, Ebor Confectionery Works, York

Confectioners' Colours, Essences, &c.—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours and Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., Hackney Wick, N.E. 15
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

Confectioners (Manufacturing, Wholesale and Export)—
Craven, M. A., & Son, Ebor Confectionery Works, York

Coping and Paving Bricks— PAGE
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Copper Tape, Wire Rope, &c.—
Connolly Bros., Ltd., Blackley, Manchester ... ...
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Corks—
Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks ... ...

Cotton Bagging—
Judge, T. & W., London, S.E. 14

Cotton Goods—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow 1
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury 26
Spinner, E., & Co., Manchester C

Cotton Waste—
Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester... ...

Cranes, Crab-Winches—
Russell, George, & Co., Motherwell, N.B. ... ...

Creosote—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Damp Wall Compositions—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E.

Decklights and Porthole Glasses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Birmingham ... ...

Decorated Tin Plates—
The Tinplate Decorating Co., Ltd., Neath ... ...

Decorative Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Delta Metal Manufacturers—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Disinfectants—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... .

Disintegrators— PAGE
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable... ... ...
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ... ...

Distillers—
Crawford, Daniel, & Son, Ltd., Glasgow ... ...
Dailuaine-Talisker Distilleries, Ltd., Carron, Strathspey ... ...
Distillers Co., Ltd., The, Edinburgh ... ...

Docks (Floating) Caissons, &c.—
Cardiff Railway Co., The, Bute Docks, Cardiff; London Office, 22A, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W. ... ...
Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Co., Wyre Dock, Fleetwood ... ...

Door Furniture—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C...

Drilling Machines—
Northern Engineering Co., Ltd., King's Cross, near Halifax ... ...

Drills—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester. C

Dry Soap—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Dye Merchants—
Edge, Wm., Sons & Co., Bolton... 17

Edge Tools—
Thornton, G., & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Electrical Fittings (China)—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C....

Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and Contractors—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C....
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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and Contractors—*continued*—
Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Lewis, Joseph, 5-6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. ... ...

Electric Bells—
Wright, Archibald J., Ltd., 318, Upper St., London, N.

Electric Light Fittings—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C....

Electric Novelties—
Wright, Archibald J., Ltd., 318, Upper St., London, N.

Electrical Screws (Iron, Steel or Brass)—
Acme Lathe Co., Ltd., The, Ardwick, Manchester ...

Emery and Corundum Wheel Manufacturers—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, near Manchester ...

Emery and Glass Cloth—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...

Emery and Glass Paper—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...

Emery Grindg. Machine Mkrs.—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester ... ...

Emery Manufacturers—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (Emery Wheel and Corundum Wheel Manufacturers) ...

Enamel Colours—
Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen...

PAGE

Enamelled Fire Clay Sinks—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock 10

Encaustic Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Sons, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs... ...

Engine Cleaning Waste—
Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester... ...

Engineers—
Northern Engineering Co., Halifax ... ...

Engineers (Boilers)—
Riley, J. Ashton, Ltd., Manchester Road, Huddersfield

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Robertson & Orchar, Dundee (Machine Moulded Wheels)
Whittingham & Porter, Hull
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Engineers and Millwrights—*General*—
Aveling & Porter, Rochester (Locomotives, Road Rollers, &c.) ... ...
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Chidlaw, Robert, Manchester
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Garrett, R., & Sons, Leiston, Suffolk ... ...

PAGE

Engineers and Millwrights—*General—continued*—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N.
Howorth, J., & Co., Farnworth, Manchester 2
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (various forms of Engineers' Grinding and Polishing Machinery) ... ...
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Whittingham & Porter, Hull
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorkshire ... ...

Engine Packings—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Engine-cleaning Waste—
Jones, W. C., Ltd., Manchester ... ...

Engine Roll Bars—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Sheffield ... ...

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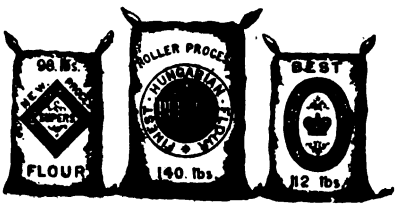

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Essences, &c.—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

Essential Oils—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

Exhibition Agents—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn... 2

Exhibition Fitters—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Fancy Goods, Dealers in, Importers, Warehousemen and Manufacturers—
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. C

Fancywood Merchants—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool ... ...

Fan Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester ... 2

Feeding Stuffs (for Cattle & Sheep)—
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B. ... ...

Felts (Paper Makers' Machine)—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury 26

Fencing (Steel and Iron)—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

File Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... ...

Filter Manufacturers—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...

Fire Bricks—
Calder Fireclay Co., The, Coatbridge... ... ...
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock 10

Fire Bricks—*continued*— PAGE
King Bros., Stourbridge ... 10
Pearson, E. J. & J., Stourbridge
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...

Fire Clay—
King Bros., Stourbridge ... 10
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...

Fire Clay Goods—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Sinks) 10

Flag and Banner Manufacturers—
Piggott Bros. & Co., London, E.C. 4

Flannel Manufacturers—
Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale C
Spinner & Co., Manchester... C

Flour Mill Engineers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Flour Millers—
Appleby, Josh., & Sons, Ltd., Liverpool ... ...
Vernon, W., & Sons, Liverpool

Forks—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Forwarding Agents—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., 38, Lime Street, E.C. ... ...

French Chalk—
Anglo-Italian Talc and Plumbago Mines Co., Ltd., 26, Old Hall Street, Liverpool

Fruit Essence Manufacturers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours & Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., London, N.E. ... 15
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

Furniture Trade Printers—
Smiley & Shaw, London, E.C.

Fustian Clothing Manufacturers—
Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge

Fustian (Piece Goods)— PAGE
Moss Bros. (Hebden Bridge), Ltd. 6

Galvanized Iron Manufacturers—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Galvanized Wire Netting—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

Garden Adornments—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Garden Furniture—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

Garden Requisite Manufacturer—
Richards, G. H., 234, Borough High Street, S.E. ... ...

Gas Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Manchester ... ...

Gas Furnaces—
Cannington, Shaw & Co., St. Helens, Lancashire ... ...

Gas Governors—
Shaw, Joseph, Huddersfield..

Gas-Tight Motors—
Hodson Wright & Wood, Halifax ... ...

Gates, Railings, and Hurdles—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

Gauge Glasses—
Butterworth Bros., Newton Heath, Manchester ... ...
Tomey & Sons, Perth ... ...
Tomey, Joseph, & Sons, Messrs., Ltd., Manor Glass Works, Aston, Birmingham

Gauge Glass Protectors—
Tomey, Joseph, & Sons, Messrs., Ltd., Manor Glass Works, Aston, Birmingham

Gear Cutter—
Chidlaw, Robert, 43, City Road, Manchester 2

Gelatines—
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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

General Export Merchants— PAGE
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E.... 8

Gin Distillers—
Distillers Co., Ltd., The, Edinburgh... ... ...
Hills & Underwood, London, E.C. ... ...

Girders (Iron and Steel)—
Scott, Walter, Ltd., Leeds ...

Glass and Emery Paper—
London Emery Works Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Glass Bottles—
Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks ... ...
Cannington, Shaw & Co., Ltd., St. Helens ... ...

Glass Case Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Glass Manufacturers—
Robinson, J. B., 31, Moor Lane, E.C. ... ...
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Glass Works—
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Glazed Bricks—
Woolliscroft, G., & Sons, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Glazed Fire Clay Sinks—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock 10

Glaziers' Diamonds—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Glues—
The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan ...

Glycerine—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Golf Balls—
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ("Melfort" and "Henley")... ... ...

Grain Cleaning Machinery— PAGE
Boby, Robt., Ltd., Bury St. Edmunds ... ...

Granite Merchants—
Freeman, John, Sons & Co., Ltd., Penryn, Cornwall (Engineering and Architectural) 4

Grease Manufacturers—
Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Grinding Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable ... ...

Grinding & Polishing Machry.—
London Emery Works Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (Makers of various forms of)... ...

Guano Manufacturers—
Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ... ...

Gummed Paper—
Jones, S., & Co., 56, Carter Lane, St. Paul's, E.C. ...

Hammers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... ...

Hams and Bacon—
Nickson, G. & J., & Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Hand Looms—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Hardwood Merchants—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool ... ...

Hat Manufacturers—
Christy & Co., London, E.C.

Heating & Ventilating Engineers—
Hartley & Sugden, Halifax (Boilers) ... ...
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Hoes— PAGE
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ... ...
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Holloware—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Hop Commissioners—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ...

Hose—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Hose-Pipe Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Hosiery—
Walker, R., & Sons, Rutland Street, Leicester 17

Hosiery & Finishing Machnry.—
Berridge, I. L., & Co., Leicester. (Sole Proprietors Griswold Knitters) ... ...

Hosiery Yarns—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford 8

Humidifier Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester ... 2

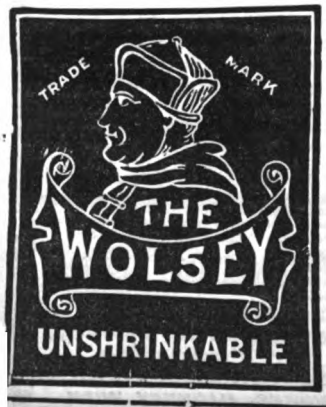
Hydraulic Engineers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Hydraulic Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ... ...

Hydraulic Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Ice Machine Manufacturers—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...

Incandescent Lamps—
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Hooper's Telegraph & India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...



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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

India-rubber Goods—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C... 4

India-rubber Manufacturers—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C... 4
Harris, Joseph, Altrincham (Advertising Balloons, Squeakers, and Rubber Surgical Appliances) ...
India-Rubber, Gutta-Percha & Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Injectors—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Ink Manufacturers—
Blackwell & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Inkstands—
Darke, E., 14a, Gt. Marlborough Street, W. ... ...

Insecticides (Horticultural)—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. ... ...

Insulators—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C. ..

Iron Buildings—
Ash, J., & Son, Rea Street, South Birmingham ... ...
Humphreys, Ltd., Knightsbridge, London, S.W. ...

Iron Plate Workers—
Ash, J., & Son, Rea Street, South Birmingham ... ...

Iron Safes—
Ratner Safe Co., Ltd., Hancock Road, Bow, E. 2

Ironfounders—
Roberts, J. & S., Ltd., West Bromwich ... ...
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee
Saxby & Farmer, Canterbury Road, London, N.W. ...
Whittingham & Porter, Hull
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

PAGE

Ironmasters—
Baird, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Gartsherrie, N.B. ... ...
Parkgate Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham ... ...
Whiteley & Sons, Ltd., Huddersfield ... ...

Ironstone Adamant Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs. ... ...

Jute Weaving Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Knitting Machine Builders—
Stibbe, G., & Co., Leicester...
Harrison Patent Knitting Machine Co., Ltd., 227, Upper Brook Street, Manchester ... ...

Lacquer Manufacturers—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E...
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E. ... ...
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Lamp Manufacturers—
Bladon, T. E., 99 and 100, Northwood Street, Birmingham; London address, 4, Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, E.C. ... ...

Lathes (Turning, Polishing, &c.)—
Fabricotti, B., London, S.W..
Northern Engineering Co., Ltd., King's Cross, near Halifax ... ...

Launch Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Patricroft, Manchester ...

Launch Oil Engines—
The Seal Motor Co., Hammersmith, London ... ...

Lead Glazing—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N. ... ...

Lead Manufacturers—
Hall, W., Winstanley Road, Battersea, S.W.... ... ...

Leather Belting (Link)—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

PAGE

Leather Reviver—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E.

Leggings and Gaiters—
Wallace, Bailey & Wilkins, Bermondsey, London, S.E.

Lens Manufacturers for Ships and Railway Lamps—
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Letter Cutters—
Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield ...

Lifts—
Clark, Bunnett, & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

Lightning Conductor Manufacturer and Erector—
Lewis, Joseph, 5 & 6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. ... ...

Lime Juice—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. 19

Liquorice Wafers—
Hillabys', Ltd., Pontefract...

Lithographic Varnish—
Coates Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Locomotive Engine Builders—
Aveling & Porter, Ltd., Rochester ... ...
Burrell, C., & Sons, Ltd., Thetford ... ...
Garrett, R., & Sons, Leiston, Suffolk ... ...

Looking Glass Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2
Robinson, J. B., 31, Moor Lane, E.C.... ... ...

Loom Makers—
Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee

Lubricants—
Bremner, J. A., & Co., Manchester ... ...
Fleming, A. B., & Co., Edinburgh ... ...
Nobel Bros., Petersburg ...

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Lubricants—*continued*— PAGE
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Lubricating Oils—
Light, Jas., & Son, Ltd., 9, Rumford Street, Liverpool
Nobel Bros., Petersburg ...
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Lubricators—
Nobel Bros., Petersburg ...

Machine Felts—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury 26

Machine Knives, Cutters & Blades—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ...

Machine Makers—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee

Machine Screws, Belts, Nuts, &c.—
Acme Lathe Co., Ltd., The, Ardwick, Manchester ...

Magnesia—
Henry, T. & W., East Street, St. Peters, Manchester ...

Manchester Warehousemen—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E. ... 9

Manures (Chemical)—
Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ... ...
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith ... ...
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle ... ...
Thomson, Wm., & Sons, Ltd., Clovenfords by Galashiels (for Vines & Plants) ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Marble and Granite Merchant and Importer—
Fabbricotti, B., Pimlico, London, S.W. ... ...

Marble Manufacturers of all Descriptions—
Fabbricotti, B., Pimlico, London, S.W. ... ...

Mattresses (Woven Wire)— PAGE
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Hay Mill, Birmingham ... ...
Lane, George, & Sons, Brueton Street, Birmingham ...

Medical Plasters—
De St. Dalmas, A., & Co., Leicester ... ...

Metal Merchants and Manfrs.—
Billington & Newton, Longport, Staffs. ... ...
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Dugard Bros., Birmingham...
King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

Metal Polish—
Baumgartner, J., F., & Co., London, W. ... ...

Military and Naval Ornaments—
Narborough, F., 40, 42, 44, Lombard Street, Birmingham ... ...
Wilkins, T. B., 52, Clement Street, Birmingham... ...

Mine Owners—
Wigan Coal & Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan (Producers of Best House, Gas and Steam Coals, and Wigan Cannel)

Mineral Waters—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. 19

Mining Lamps (all classes)—
Cooke, Joseph, & Son (Belmont Passage), 203, Lawley Street, Birmingham ... ...

Mortar and Pestle Manfrs.—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C....

Mortice Furniture—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C....

Mosaic and Tiles Decoration—
Geary, Walker & Co., 11, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C. ... ...
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs. ... ...

Motors (Gas Tight)—
Hodgson, Wright & Wood, Halifax ... ...

Mushroom Ketchup— PAGE
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...

Musical Instrument Manfrs.—
Lachenal & Co., London, W.C. 6

Mustard Seed—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ...

Nails—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 25

Name Plate Makers—
Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield ...

Newspapers—
Colliery Guardian, 49, Essex Street, Strand, W.C. ... 12

Night Lights—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Oar Manufacturers—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool ... ...

Office Fittings—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Oilcake (Linseed and Cotton)—
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B. ... ...

Oil Cans—
Bladon, T. E., 99 & 100, Northwood Street, Birmingham; London address, 4, Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, E.C. ... ...
Kaye, Joseph, & Sons, Ltd., Leeds ... ...

Oil Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Manchester ... ...
The Seal Motor Co., Hammersmith, London ... ...

Oil Mill Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

Oil Refiners, Distillers, & Mfrs.—
Bremner, Jno. A., & Co., Manchester ... ...
Fleming, A. B., & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh... ... ...
Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Oil Refiners, Distillers, and Manufacturers—*continued*—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C. ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Opal Tiling—
The Permanent Decorative Glass Co., Ltd. Lancaster.. 2

Ore Crushing Machines—
Baxter, W. H., Leeds ... ...

Ovens—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Oxfords Manufacturers—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow 1

Oxides—
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Oxygen. Cylinder Valves for—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Paint Manufacturers—
Hoyle, Robson, Barnett & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne...
Parker & Lester, London, S.E. (Antimony Paint) ...
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Robinson, E., & Co., Ltd., City Works, Sheffield ...
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Paper Bag Makers (Home and Export)—
Higham Bros., Cone Works, Farnworth, near Bolton, Lancs.... ... ...

Paper Bags—
Smith, Stone & Knight, Ltd., Union Paper Mills, Birmingham ... ...

PAGE

Paper Makers—
Smith & McLaurin, Messrs., Ltd., Milliken Park, Scotland (Coated and Gummed Papers) ... ...
Tullis, R., & Co., Markinch, Fife 1

Paper Makers and Stationers (Wholesale and Export)—
Annandale, John, & Sons, Ltd., Shotley Grove, Durham C
Dickinson, J., & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. 3
Ford, T. B., Loudwater, High Wycombe (Blottings)
Hodgkinson, W. S., & Co., Wells, Somerset ... ...
Hollingsworth & Co., Maidstone 3
Olive & Partington, Manchester C

Paper Makers' Steel and Bronze Tools—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ...

Paper Makers' Tools—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Sheffield ... ...

Parquet Flooring—
Geary, Walker & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Patent Fuel Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

Pavement Light Lenses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Birmingham ... ...

Paving Bricks—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Pen Manufacturers—
Gillott, J., & Sons, Birmingham ... ...

Perfumers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E....

PAGE

Perfumery Materials—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E....
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

Phosphor Bronze—
Billington & Newton, Longport, Staffs. ... ...

Photographic Process—
Platinotype Co., The, London, W.C. 1

Pianos, Organs, and Small Instruments—
Riley's on Constitution Hill, Birmingham ... ...

Pickles—
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...

Picks—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Pins (Toilet)—
Edridge, Merrett & Co., Ltd., Legge Street, Birmingham

Pistons—
Buckley, W., & Co., Millsands, Sheffield ... ...

Plate and Bar Manufacturers—
Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby... ... ...

Plate Glass Manufacturers—
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C.

Plumbago—
Anglo-Italian Talc and Plumbago Mines Co., Ltd., 26, Old Hall Street, Liverpool

Poles, Telegraph—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C...

Porcelain Paint—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. ... ...

Portable Buildings—
Humphreys, Ltd., Knightsbridge, London, S.W. ...

Portable Iron and Wood Buildings—
Iles, Robert, Ltd., Walham Green, London, S.W. ...

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Portland Cement— PAGE
Peters Bros., 34, Victoria Street, S.W. 3
West Kent Portland Cement Co., Burham, Rochester, Kent 6

Preservative for Stone, &c.—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. ... ...

Printers, Publishers, and Engravers—
Colliery Guardian Co., Ltd., 49, Essex Street, Strand, W.C. 12
Sheppard & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. C
Smily & Shaw, London, E.C.

Printing Ink Manufacturers—
Blackwell & Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Coates Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Proprietary Articles, Specialities, &c.—
Baumgartner, J. F., & Co., London, W. ("La Brillantine" Metallic Powder)
Dalmas, A. de St., & Co., Leicester (Medical Plaisters)
Henry's Calcined Magnesia (T. & W. Henry), Manchester
Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Co., Lincoln (Clarke's Blood Mixture)..
Scott & Bowne, Ltd., London E.C. (Scott's Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil)... ...

Provision Merchants (Wholesale and Export)—
Griffiths, McAlister & Co., Liverpool ... ...
Gunson, Geo., Sons & Co. Liverpool ... ...
MacSimon's Stores, Ltd., Canning Place, Liverpool..
Nickson, G. & J., & Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Provisions (Importers and Exporters)—
Gunson, Geo., Sons & Co., 3, Atherton Street, Liverpool

Pulley Blocks— PAGE
Godfrey, J. T., Loughborough

Pulleys—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

Pumping Engines—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Pumps—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Quarry Owners—
Freeman, J., Son & Co., London, W. 4
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

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Rogers, H. J., Shottermill, Haslemere ... ...

Reducing Valves for Compressed Gases—
Scotch & Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Refrigerators— PAGE
Haslam Foundry and Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Derby ... ...
Pulsometer Engineering Co., The, Reading and London

Retorts—
Stevens, J., & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Rings and Springs—
Buckley, Wm., & Co., Millsands, Sheffield... ... ...

Rivet, Bolt, and Nut Manfrs.—
Gadd, Thos., Rowley Regis, Dudley ... ...
Guest, Keen, & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 25
Periam, H. W., Birmingham
Priest, B., & Sons, Oldhills, Staffs ... ...

Roof Glazing—
Grover & Co., Ltd London, N.

Roofing (Patent)—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N.

Roofing Tile Machinery—
Woolliscroft. G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs. ... ...

Roofing Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Rope Manufacturers—
Piggott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. 4

Rubber Tyres—
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N. 9

Sacks and Bags—
Judge, T. & W., London, E.C. (Cotton) 14
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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Safety Fuse Manufacturers—
Nobel's Explosive Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Salt—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Salvage and Dismantling Contractors—
Adams, John, & Sons, Broad Chare, Newcastle-on-Tyne

Sanitary Appliances—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Drain Pipes and Traps, Sanitary Earthenware, W.C. Basins, Urinals, and Washdown Closets, Enamelled Sinks) 10

Sanitary Paints—
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...

Sanitary Potters—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock 10

Sauce Manufacturers—
Cocks, Chas., & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...

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Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... ...

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Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 25
Periam, H. W., Birmingham

Seals—
Pryor, E. & Son, Sheffield ...

Seed Merchants—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ...

PAGE

Seeds—
Cooper, Taber & Co., Ltd., London 20

Serge—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford... 8
Hamlyn Bros., Ltd., Buckfastleigh, Devon 23
Spinner & Co., Manchester... C

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Robertson & Orchar, Dundee

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Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Bordesley, Birmingham... ...

PAGE

Ships' Lamp Lenses—
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Shirtings—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow 1

Shoe Rivets—
Edridge, Merrett & Co., Ltd., Legge Street, Birmingham

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Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Sinks—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock, N.B.... 10

Slate Merchants and Manufrs.—
Davies Bros., Portmadoc, N. Wales ... ...
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Soap Manufacturers—*contd.* PAGE
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Hazlehurst Soap Works, Runcorn
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester (Hard and Soft Soaps)... ... ...

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Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

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Fabbricotti, B., London, S.W.

Steam Traps—
Whiteley, W., & Sons, Ltd., Lockwood. Huddersfield ...

Steam Valves— PAGE
Shaw, J., Albert Works, Huddersfield ... ...

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Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E.

Stoves—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

Strong Rooms— PAGE
Hobbs, Hart & Co., Ltd., London, N.... 10

Sugar Refiners—
Tate, Henry, & Sons, Ltd., London and Liverpool ...

Sulphate of Copper—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

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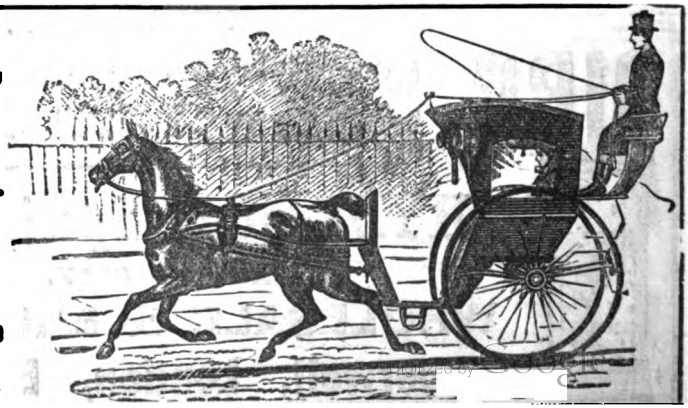

THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Tea Merchants—
Tower Tea Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

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Telegraph Engineers—
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Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
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Telegraph Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Helsby, Warrington ... ...

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Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Textile Machinery Manufrs.—
Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Textile Manufacturers—
Hamlyn Bros., Buckfastleigh, Devon 23
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E ... 8
Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale C
Spinner, E., & Co., Manchester C

Tiles, Tessellated and Glazed—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Timber Merchants—
Denny, Mott & Dickson, Ltd., 165, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C... ... 2
Gradwell, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness, Lancs.

PAGE

Timber Merchants and Importers—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Liverpool .. ..
Gradwell, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness, Lancs.

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Tinplate Decorating Co., Ltd., The, Neath ... ...

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London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...

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Jones, George, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

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Russell, J., & Sons, Ltd., Wednesbury ... ...
Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

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Platt, Jas., & Co., 77, St. Martin's Lane, W.C.... ...

Twines—
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool ... ...

Typewriter—
Yost Typewriter Co., Ltd., The, London, E.C. ... ...

PAGE

Tyre Manufacturers—
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N.... 10

Valves for Compressed Gases—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Varnish Manufacturers—
Blackwell & Co., Dyer's Buildings, E.C.... ... ...
Flack, Henry, London, S.E...
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E. ... ...
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Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

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Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E....
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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

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Frank Hawker Carpathian Silver Co., Ltd., 52, Spencer-street, Birmingham ... ...

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Periam, Herbert W., Ltd., Floodgate-street Works, Birmingham ... ...

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Piggott Bros. & Co., London, E.C. 4

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Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading ... ...

Water Taps—
Palatine Engineering Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

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Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...
Whiteley, Wm., & Sons, Lockwood, Huddersfield...

Wheels—
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N.... 10

Whip and Walking Stick Makers—
Narborough, F., 42 & 44, Lombard-street, Birmingham ... ...

White Lead Manufacturers—
Mersey White Lead Co., Ltd., Warrington ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

PAGE

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Hills & Underwood, London, E.C. ... ...
Morgan & Co., Hamburg ... 24

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Cradock, G., & Co., Wakefield ... ...
Dugard Bros., Birmingham (Brass and Copper) ... ...
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham (Wire Nails, Rods, Bars, Hoops, &c.) 25
Power, F. A., & Son, Saltley, Birmingham ... ...
Shipman, J., & Co., Attercliffe, Sheffield ... ...

Wire Rope Manufacturers—
Cradock, G., & Co., Wakefield ... ...
Lewis, Joseph, 5 & 6, Great Winchester-street, London, E.C. ... ...

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Power, F. A., & Son, Saltley, Birmingham ... ...

Wood Block Flooring—
Geary, Walker & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Wood Stains—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E.
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E. ... ...

PAGE

Wolsey Unshrinkable Wool-Underwear—
Walker, R., & Sons, Rutland Street, Leicester 16

Wool Importers—
Hall, John, & Sons, Liverpool ... ...

Wool, Tops, Noils, Wastes, &c.—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford... 8

Woollen, Cotton, and Linen Cloths for Machinery—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury 26

Woollen Machinery Manufacturers—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury (Power Looms and all kinds of Weaving Machinery) ... ...

Woollen Warehousemen and Manufacturers—
Grainger & Smith, Dudley...
Hamlyn Bros., Ltd., Buckfastleigh, Devon 23
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E. ... 9
Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale C
Platt, James, & Co., Woollen Merchants and General Warehousemen, London, W.C. ... ...
Spinner, E., & Co., Manchester C

Worsted and Woollen Yarns—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford... 9

Worsted Suiting Manufacturer—
Dickinson, Herbert, 14, Northumberland Street, Huddersfield ... ...

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THE Board of Trade Journal

(With which is incorporated the "Imperial Institute Journal.")

Edited by the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

FEBRUARY 16, 1905.

	PAGE
Openings for British Trade	292
Foreign Trade of Russia	302
Import Trade of the Transvaal	303
Trade of Foreign Countries and British Possessions	304
Silk Conditioned at European Silk Centres	305
Proposed Tariff Changes	306
Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations	306
Shipping and Transport	322
Minerals, Metals, and Machinery	323
Yarns and Textiles	326
Agriculture	326
Miscellaneous	329
Statistical Tables	330
Government Publications (Board of Trade,* Foreign Office, Colonial Office, &c.)	335

For list of contents in detail see p. vii. of Advertisements.

* *For list of principal publications of Board of Trade see p. v. of Advertisements.*

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Ipswich.—February 20.—3,500 tons of steam coal, for the Electric Supply Department. Mr. F. Ayton, chief engineer and manager, Constantine Road.

Manchester. — February 27. — 5,196 tons of coal, for the Rivers Committee of the Corporation. The Secretary of the Rivers Department, Town Hall.

Oxford.—February 18.—1,900 tons of house, gas, and steam coal, for the Littlemore Asylum, near Oxford. Mr. T. M. Davenport, County Hall, Oxford.

Penrith.—Coal, &c., for the Camp of the Westmoreland and Cumberland Imperial Yeomanry. The office, 10, Great Dockray, Penrith.

Rathmines (Ireland).—February 20. Coal, &c., for the Urban District Council. Mr. F. P. Fawcett, clerk.

Barrow-in-Furness.—February 20.—Cast-iron pipes, &c., for the Corporation. The office of the Manager of the Gas and Water Works.

Bilston.—March 4.—Iron pipes, &c., for the Urban District Council. The Surveyor for the Bilston Urban District Council, Town Hall.

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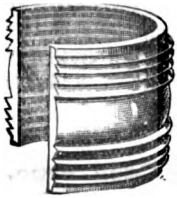

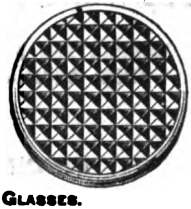

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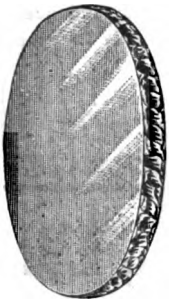

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Board of Trade Journal.

FEBRUARY 16TH, 1905.

CONTENTS.

PAGE

Openings for British Trade 292

United Kingdom.—Government Contracts: War Office.

British Colonies, &c.:—

British India.—Tenders for Railway Stores.
Opening for Irrigation Works.

Canada.—Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

Australian Commonwealth.—Tenders for Railway Materials in South Australia.

Cape Colony.—Tenders for Blankets and Sleeping Mats.
" Leather Mail Bags.
" Timber.
" Castor Oil.
Opening for Drainage Material.

Orange River Colony.—Opening for Pumping Plant.

Foreign Countries:—

Openings for Trade in Sweden, Belgium, Spain, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Roumania, Ottoman Empire, United States of America, Chile, and Argentina.

Foreign Trade of Russia 302

Import Trade of the Transvaal 303

Trade of Foreign Countries and British Possessions 304

Silk Conditioned at European Silk Centres 305

Proposed Tariff Changes 306

Persia.

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations 306

British India. Gold Coast—West of the Volta. Grenada. Mauritius. Egypt. Russia. France. Ivory Coast. Italy. Venezuela. Panama.

Shipping and Transport 322

New Steamship Service between La Pallice and Liverpool. Steamship Service from Marseilles to Mombasa. United States Railways—Rates for Goods; Permanent Way; Lack of Clearing House; American Railway Association. Re-opening of Costa Rica Railway to Traffic.

Minerals, Metals, and Machinery 323

Petroleum Industry in Burma. Mineral Resources of Ceylon. Petroleum Production of Baku in 1904. Effect of Colliery Strikes in Westphalia on the Netherlands Coal Trade.

Yarns and Textiles 326

Cotton Spinning and Weaving in India.

Agriculture 326

Report on Cotton Samples from Colombo. Proceedings at the Agricultural Conference in the West Indies. Tea Industry in the Caucasus. Italian Silk Cocoon Crop of 1904. Agricultural Statistics of the United States for 1904.

Miscellaneous 329

Assignment of Contract for Santiago Drainage Works. Postponement of Conversion of Paper Money in Chile.

Statistical Tables 330

Cotton Returns.
Corn Prices.
Imports of Agricultural Produce.
Alien Immigration Statistics.
Bankruptcy Statistics.

Government Publications 335

Board of Trade Returns and Labour Gazette. Note of Foreign Office Reports, also of certain other Government Publications having a bearing upon trade issued during the week. List of Foreign Office Reports, arranged geographically, also a list of Colonial Office Reports issued since the beginning of the year.

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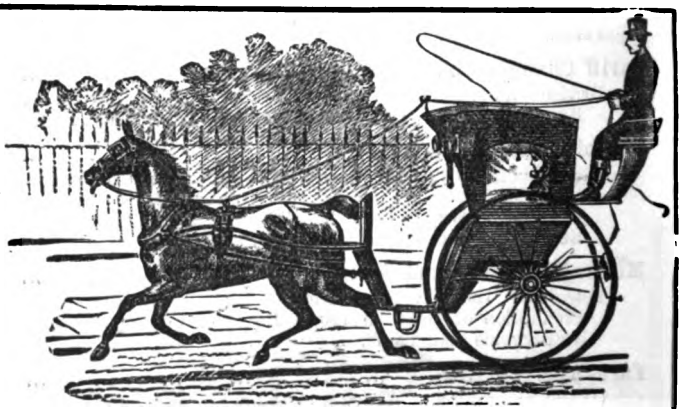

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THE

Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. XLVIII.] February 16, 1905. [No. 429.

In a notice on p. 338 will be found a statement of the objects and work of the **Commercial Intelligence Branch** of the Board of Trade.

The Branch has been moved from 50, Parliament Street to 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

"Advantage, London" is the registered telegraphic address of the Branch.

The Temporary Enquiry Office, hitherto at 49, Eastcheap, E.C., has also been moved to 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

INFORMATION ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

Information on the subjects named in the notice on the cover will be found in the following Board of Trade publications, obtainable in London upon application to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W., and their Sub-Agents, Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, at the prices named, viz.:—

1 "Board of Trade Journal," 3rd September, 1903, pp. 448-61, 5th May, 1904, p. 216, 4th August, 1904, p. 212, 10th November, pp. 265-6, and 9th February, p. 259, at 1*d.* per number.

2	Statistical Abstract for the United Kingdom, 51st number (Cd. 2,192), at 1*s.* 3*d.*	pp. 28/29
3		p. 12
4		pp. 176/191
5		pp. 57/157
5	Monthly Accounts relating to Trade and Navigation (0.10) at 8½*d.*	
	Annual Statement of Trade, 1903. Vol. I. (Cd. 2,043) at 7*s.* 1*d.* ...	pp. 166 *et seq.*
	Annual Statement of Trade, 1903. Vol. II. (Cd. 2,081) at 5*s.*	pp. 177/453

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6 } Annual Abstract of Labour Statistics, } pp. 176/182
7 } 9th No. (Cd. 1,755) at 1*s.* ... } pp. 34/72

7 Report on Changes in Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour (Cd. 2,199), at 7*d.*

8 Colonial Import Duties Return (Cd. 2,185) 2*s.* 1*d.*

9 Canada (Preferential Tariff for goods from the United Kingdom), No. 310, at ½*d.*

10 Statistical Abstract for the Colonial and other Possessions of the United Kingdom, 41st No. (Cd. 1,912) 1*s.* 10*d.* pp. 38/243

10 { Trade (Colonies & the United Kingdom), No. 262, 2*d.*
Trade (Colonies and Foreign Countries) No. 110, 2*d.*

11 Foreign Import Duties Return (Cd. 2,340) at 2*s.*

12 Statistical Abstract for the principal and other foreign countries, 30th number (Cd. 2,202) at 1*s.* 6*d.* ... pp. 44/217

13 Trade between the United Kingdom and Germany (131) at 1½*d.*

14 Memorandum on the comparative Statistics of Population, Industry, and Commerce in the United Kingdom and some leading foreign countries (Cd. 1,199) at 5½*d.*

15 { British and Foreign Trade and Industry. Memoranda, Statistical Tables and Charts (Cd. 1,761) at 3*s.* 6*d.*
British and Foreign Trade and Industry (Second Series). Second Series of Memoranda, Statistical Tables and Charts (Cd. 2,337) at 3*s.* 6*d.*

16 Naval Expenditure and Mercantile Marine (Great Britain, &c.) (284) at 1*d.*

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS: WAR OFFICE.

Coal for the Royal Ordnance Factories, Woolwich, the Royal Small Arms Factory, Enfield Lock, and the Royal Gunpowder Factory, Waltham Abbey.

The Secretary of State for War is prepared to receive tenders for the supply of such quantities of coal as may be demanded for the Ordnance factories at the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, the Royal Small Arms Factory, Enfield Lock, and the Royal Gunpowder Factory, Waltham Abbey, during the period of 12 months from 1st April, 1905.

Separate forms of tender, showing the approximate quantities and the descriptions required, may be obtained on personal application at the War Office, Pall Mall, S.W., or by letter addressed to the Secretary.

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Openings for British Trade.

UNITED KINGDOM—*continued.*

For any further information as to mode of delivery, &c., application should be made to the Chief Superintendent of Ordnance Factories.

The tenders are to be delivered at the War Office, Pall Mall, S.W., by 12 noon, on Wednesday, the 1st March.

Coal for the Royal Small Arms Factory, Sparkbrook, Birmingham.

The Secretary of State for War is also prepared to receive tenders for the supply of such quantities of coal as may be demanded at the Royal Small Arms Factory, Sparkbrook, Birmingham, during the period of 12 months, from 1st April, 1905.

Tenders must be made upon the proper form, which may be obtained on application to the Superintendent, Royal Small Arms Factory, Birmingham, where all necessary information will be furnished.

The tenders are to be delivered at the War Office, Pall Mall, S.W., by 12 noon, on Wednesday, the 1st March.

BRITISH INDIA.

Irrigation Works.

The Board of Trade have been notified by the India Office that the Secretary of State for India in Council has sanctioned the projected estimates for irrigation works in the Punjab at an estimated cost of 782 lakhs. They are as follows:—

1. An Upper Jhelum Canal to irrigate portions of the Upper Jech Doab, and convey the surplus waters of the Jhelum to the Chenab river, tailing in above the head works of the existing Chenab Canal. The cost of this canal is estimated at 299 lakhs.

2. An Upper Chenab Canal with head opposite Sialkot to draw off as much water as is tailed in by the Upper Jhelum Canal, to proceed through Gujranwala to the Ravi as may be necessary, and to irrigate portions of the Upper Rechna Doab. This will cost 300 lakhs.

3. A Lower Bari Doab Canal from the tail of the Upper Chenab Canal for the irrigation of the Lower Bari Doab tract. This third Canal will cost 183 lakhs.

The canals, with their tributaries, will be respectively 562 miles, 1,092 and 1,060 miles in length, and will irrigate 345, 648 and 882 thousand acres respectively. The annual net revenue from each is estimated at 13½, 25½, and 38½ lakhs respectively.

Railway Stores.

The Directors of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply of the following stores, namely:—

White lead; wood handles; screw couplings, &c.; galvanised wrought iron water tubes; spark arresters, wire gauze, &c.; steel and iron work for bogies and underframes.

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Openings for British Trade.

Specifications and forms of tender may be obtained at the Company's Offices, 48, Copthall Avenue, E.C., on payment of the fee for the specification, which payment will not be returned.

Tenders must be delivered in sealed envelopes, addressed to the Secretary, marked "Tender for White Lead," or, as the case may be, not later than 11 a.m. on Thursday, the 23rd February.

The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

CANADA.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following trade enquiries have been received at the Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., whence further information regarding them may be obtained :—

Home Enquiries.—A firm manufacturing high-class toilet soaps and perfumes wish to be placed in communication with Canadian firms prepared to take up the sale of these goods.

The manufacturers of Staffordshire floor and wall tiles, glass wall tiles, and fire bricks wish to appoint resident agents in Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver.

The manufacturers of stone sawing machinery wish to introduce their machinery to the Canadian market.

A firm manufacturing electrically driven compressers would like to arrange with Canadian firms constructing small motors to work with them in introducing the compresser into Canada.

Canadian Enquiry.—A Canadian firm wish to form a connection with a United Kingdom tea exporting house (not already represented) dealing in Indian and Ceylon teas; and also wish to get into communication with a first-class firm doing an export trade in cocoa butter.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Railway Materials.

Tenders will be received at the Supply and Tender Board Office, Adelaide, up to 3 p.m. on 5th April, for the supply of the following materials, delivered in bond, on wharf, Port Adelaide, wharfage to be paid by the contractor :—

348 bars of channel steel (two drawings, 1*s*. each).
54 bars of angle steel (one drawing, 1*s*.).
1,017 bars of angle steel (one drawing, 1*s*.).

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11 bars of square root angle steel (two drawings, 1*s*. each).
12 bars of tee steel.
145 mild steel plates or bars.
540 mild steel plates.
1,470 mild steel plates.
250 feet of iron chain.

Specifications may be seen and forms of tender obtained at the above office, and the office of the Chief Mechanical Engineer, Islington, South Australia; specifications may also be seen at the office of the Agent-General for South Australia, in London.

Copies of indent, with specifications complete (8*s*. each) and drawings, may be obtained at the Chief Mechanical Engineer's office, Islington, South Australia.

Date of delivery, as well as the names of manufacturers of the materials tendered for, must be distinctly stated in each tender.

The materials are to be subject to the inspection, test, and approval of the Government Inspecting Engineer, in London, or the Chief Mechanical Engineer, in Adelaide.

The expenses of the inspecting engineer will be paid by the Agent-General, London (except in cases as specified), who will also advance 75 per cent. on the contract on receipt of bills of lading, insurance policy, and the usual shipping documents, accompanied by the certificate of the inspecting engineer; and the balance of the contract will be paid in Adelaide or London, at the option of the contractor, upon satisfactory delivery of the materials.

Successful tenderers will be required, within seven days of date of notice of acceptance of tender, to enter into an agreement and make a deposit equal to 5 per cent. of the total value of their accepted tender as security for the due fulfilment of contract.

Tenders should be endorsed "Tender for railway materials."

Neither the lowest or any tender necessarily accepted.

CAPE COLONY.

Blankets and Sleeping Mats.

Although received too late for tenders to be sent hence by mail, it may be of interest to note that the "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" of 13th January contains the announcement that sealed tenders will be received by the Chairman of the Tender Board, Controller and Auditor-General's Office, Cape Town, until noon on Friday, the 31st March, 1905, from persons willing to supply blankets and sleeping mats required for bedding for convicts in connection with convict stations and gaols in the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, for a period of two years commencing on the 1st July, 1905, and ending on the 30th June, 1907.

Conditions of the contract and forms of tender (on which forms all tenders must be made) may be obtained, together with any

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Openings for British Trade.

CAPE COLONY—*continued.*

further particulars required, on application to the Superintendent, Breakwater Convict Station. A schedule of all articles required will be attached to the form of tender.

Sealed samples of the articles required to be supplied may be inspected at the office of the Superintendent, Breakwater Convict Station.

The Government does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender, and reserves to itself the option of accepting any portion or portions of any tender.

The signatures of *two* good and sufficient sureties will be required to every tender.

Leather Mail Bags.

The "Gazette" of 20th January contains a notice to the effect that tenders will be received at the Office of the Chairman of the Tender Board, Cape Town, until noon on Wednesday, the 19th April, for the supply of such of the undermentioned mail and private post bags as may be required for the service of the Post Office and Telegraph Department in Cape Colony, during the period 1st July, 1905, to 30th June, 1908.

Each tender must be supported by the signature of two persons willing to act as sureties for the due execution of the contract, in the event of the offer being accepted, either wholly or in part.

In order that any tenders sent in may not be opened before the proper time, it is necessary that tenderers should mark on the outside of each tender the words "Tender for supply of Leather Mail Bags."

Samples of the bags may be seen, and particulars of the quantities which will probably be required, obtained on application to the Controller of Stores, G.P.O., Cape Town.

With regard to private bags, tenderers are requested to forward with their tenders a sample lock which must not be inferior to the lock to be seen at the G.P.O., and the bags must be in every respect equal to the standard sample as regards quality of leather and weight.

The bags are to be delivered free of extra charge at any spot that may be desired within the Municipality of Cape Town.

Private post bags, good solid leather, hand sewn, with shoulder strap, inside flap and straps, and four lever brass locks, hinged hasp and duplicate keys; size (*a*) 16 in. by 10 in. by 4 in., (*b*) 12 in. by 9 in. by 3 in., and weight not to exceed 3½ lbs. and 2½ lbs. respectively.

Aden pattern bags, leather, 2 ft. 6 in. by 2 ft., 3 ft. by 2 ft. and 4 ft. by 2 ft. 6 in.

Field-cornets' leather bags, 1 ft. 8 in. by 1 ft. 4 in.

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Openings for British Trade.

CAPE COLONY—*continued.*

Letter-carriers' leather bags, 4 in. gusset, 1 ft. 4 in. by 1 ft. 3 in.

Waybill pouches, leather, 1 ft. 2 in. by 7 in.

Shoulder bags, waterproof canvas, 6 in. gusset, 1 ft. 6 in. by 1 ft. 6 in., and 1 ft. 8 in. by 1 ft. 6 in.

Shoulder bags, leather, with waterproof lining, 6 in. gusset, 1 ft. 6 in. by 1 ft. 6 in., and 2 ft. 2 in. by 1 ft. 6 in.

Saddle bags, leather, waterproof lining, 1 ft. 6 in. by 1 ft. 6 in., and 2 ft. by 1 ft. 6 in.

Saddle bags, waterproof canvas, 1 ft. 6 in. by 1 ft. 6 in., and 2 ft. by 1 ft. 6 in.

Timber.

The same "Gazette" notifies that tenders are invited for the supply of the following timber required for the service of the Cape Government Railway Department:—

84,000 superficial feet of pine boards.
400 teak logs.

Forms of tender, conditions of contract, and all other particulars may be obtained at the Railway Stores, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth and East London.

Sealed tenders, addressed to the Chairman of the Tender Board, Parliament Street, Cape Town, marked outside "Tender for Timber," will be received up to noon on Tuesday, 4th April.

The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

Drainage Material.

The "Gazette" also contains a notice of the intention of the Rondebosch Municipality to borrow 33,000*l.* for certain public works, including an amount of 7,567*l.* for storm water drains.

Castor Oil.

The "Gazette" of 24th January contains a notice inviting tenders for the supply of 72,000 galls. of castor oil, required for the service of the Cape Government Railway Department during the year 1905.

As regards this contract, the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from their Correspondent at Cape Town (Mr. E. J. Cattell) a limited number of forms of tender and conditions of contract. These may be obtained by British manufacturers and traders (until the supply is exhausted) on application at the offices of the Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

Sealed tenders, addressed to the Chairman of the Tender Board, Control and Audit Office, Parliament Street, Cape Town, marked outside "Tender for Castor Oil," will be received up to noon on Monday, 20th March.

The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

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Openings for British Trade.

ORANGE RIVER COLONY.

Pumping Plant.

A despatch has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, from their Correspondent at Thabanchu (Mr. R. Dumaresq), in which he writes:—

"British manufacturers should look out for orders for pumping plants. The Government are realising every day the necessity for boring for water as much as possible, and the Land Settlement Department are offering drills at low hire to settlers and have lately bought six new Juniper drills, which are being operated with as fast as possible. As in many or most instances the water when found does not run out, and cannot be furrowed out, it is necessary to use a deep well pump, with either steam, oil, wind, or horse power.

"Windmills seem to be the most economical and favourite form of power . . ; the Americans are in the field with both mills and pumps. . . .

"Orders do not come nowadays to the man in the office, but to the man who, by push and courtesy combined, can personally prove the efficacy of the goods he represents."

SWEDEN.

Coal.

H.M. Consul at Stockholm (Mr. A. Stewart MacGregor) forwards translation of a notice inviting tenders for the supply of 5,000 tons of Welsh coal (Lockett's Ferndale or Penrikiber) to the "Stockholms Angslups A. B.," Stockholm. The coal is to be delivered c.i.f. Stockholm, in about equal quantities, on or about the following dates, viz., 15th May, 1st July, 1st August, and 1st October, of the present year. Tenders will be received up to the 20th February.

BELGIUM.

Railway Construction.

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" of 12th February announces that tenders are invited for the construction of a railway between Lahamaide and Flobecq, at the estimated cost of 225,005 fr. (about 9,000*l.*). Tenders, in registered envelopes, will be received by "M. le Directeur Général, Société Nationale des Chemins de Fer Vicinaux, 14 rue de la Science, Brussels," until the 14th March; they will be opened on the following day. A deposit of 22,000 fr. (about 880*l.*) will be required to qualify any tender. Plans, specifications, drawings, &c., may be inspected at the above-mentioned address, whence a copy of the specifications may be obtained on payment of 1 fr.

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Openings for British Trade.

SPAIN.

Madrid Street Improvement and Drainage Works: Electric Tramway Concession.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 6th February contains a notice calling for tenders, which will be opened at noon on the 19th April, in the "Casa Consistorial," Madrid, for the carrying out of an improvement scheme comprising the extension of the Calle de Preciados and the construction of a roadway between the Plaza del Callao and the Calle del Alcalá, the execution of drainage works, the laying down of water mains, the erection of street lamps, &c. The upset price is 12,620,077 pesetas (about 382,426*l.*). The person to whom the contract is awarded will be assigned the right to construct and work, for a term of 40 years, an electric tramway along the new streets; subject to the plans for this tramway being approved by the Minister of Agriculture, Industry, Commerce and Public Works. The holder of the contract, or his legal representative, will be required to reside in Madrid from the date of the commencement of the works until the date on which they are handed over to the Municipality. The conditions of contract, &c., are on view in the offices of the Secretary of the Ayuntamiento, Madrid. A deposit of 50,170 pesetas (about 1,520*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Local representation is necessary.

Electric Lighting.

With reference to the notice which appeared on p. 296 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 17th November, 1904, attention is called to the fact that no contract having resulted from the competition on the 12th December for the contract for the electric lighting of Salamanca, an announcement appears in the "Gaceta" of 6th February that tenders are again called for, the conditions having been revised in some particulars. Tenders will be opened on the 14th March at the offices of the Municipality of Salamanca. A deposit of 2,600 pesetas (about 78*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Local representation would be requisite.

Electric Tramway Plant.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of the 8th February publishes a Decree authorising the Central Railway and Tramway Company of Spain to substitute electric, for animal, traction on the tramway between the Plaza del Teatro and the Playa de Casa Antunez, Barcelona.

Light Buoys.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 11th February publishes a Decree authorising the Minister of Agriculture, Industry, Commerce, and Public Works to expend 120,690 pesetas (about 3,657*l.*) on the purchase, without the formality of a public call for tenders, of light buoys to be placed at the mouths of the rivers Ares (Coruña) and Arosa (Pontevedra).

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Openings for British Trade.

SPAIN—*continued.*

Telegraph and Telephone Material.

The same issue of the "Gaceta" publishes a notification to the effect that tenders will be opened at the offices of the Director-General of the Telegraph Department, 10 Calle de Carretas, Madrid, 30 days after the publication of the notice, for the supply of various kinds of telegraph and telephone material, to the estimated value of 35,337 pesetas (about 1,070*l.*). Details of the material required are set forth in the "Gaceta." Local representation is necessary.

Zinc Cylinders.

The "Gaceta" of 12th February announces that tenders will be opened, 30 days after the publication of the notice, at the offices of the Director-General of the Telegraph Department, 10 Calle de Carretas, Madrid, for the supply of 32,000 zinc cylinders for Callaud piles, to be delivered in four equal lots at Madrid, Cordova, Barcelona and Valladolid. Samples are on view at the above-mentioned offices. The maximum price at which tenders will be received is 1,800 pesetas (about 54*l.*) per thousand cylinders. A deposit of 5 per cent. of the value of the goods at the upset price is required to qualify any tender. Local representation is necessary.

The "Gacetas" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

ITALY.

Tin Plates, Jute Cables, Yarns, &c.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received a despatch from H.M. Consul at Palermo (Mr. S. J. A. Churchill) notifying that he has received an enquiry for the names of British manufacturers of tin plates from an Italian firm desiring to open communication with such. H.M. Consul adds that the firm making the enquiry are also importers of jute cables, yarns, &c.

Communications should be addressed to His Britannic Majesty's Consul, British Consulate, Palermo.

Hydro-Electric Plant.

The "Bollettino delle Finanze" notifies an application by Messrs. Jacob Rieter & Co., of Winterthur, for an appropriation of water from the river Dora Baltea at the point called Chalet di Montità for the production of power for an electric railway. The cost of the installation required is estimated at 315,450 lire (about 12,618*l.*).

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Openings for British Trade.

ITALY—*continued.*

Construction of Apulian Aqueduct.

With reference to the notice on p. 56 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 12th January, and to previous notices respecting the concession for the construction of the Apulian Aqueduct, it is to be observed that additional copies of the advertisement (in English) setting forth the main provisions of the concession have been received from the Italian Embassy in London. Those interested can obtain further details on application to the Italian Chamber of Commerce, 4, St. Mary Axe, E.C.

Attention is called to the existence in the regulations regarding the concession, of a stipulation to the effect that an Italian firm of tenderers is to be preferred to a foreign firm, provided the amount of their tender does not exceed that of the foreign one by more than five per cent. of the latter.

Electric Tramway Plant.

The "Gazzetta Ufficiale" of 11th February publishes a Decree authorising the "Unione Italiana" Electric Tramway Company to construct an electric tramway between the Piazza di Negro, Genoa, and the commune of Rivarolo Ligure.

The "Gazzetta" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

Paper.

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" (Brussels) states that the adjudication will take place on the 15th March, at the offices of the Court and State Printing Establishment, Vienna, of tenders for the supply, during three years, of the white and coloured paper required for that establishment.

ROUMANIA.

Conditions Governing State Monopoly Contracts.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from the British Vice-Consul at Bucharest (Mr. H. E. Browne) a copy (in French) of the general conditions for tenders for the supply of articles in which the Department of State Monopolies* of Roumania are especially interested.

These conditions may be consulted on application at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

* Government Monopolies in Roumania include salt, tobacco, matches, playing cards, gunpowder and cigarette paper.

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Openings for British Trade.

OTTOMAN EMPIRE.

Railway Plant.

The "Levant Herald" states that the Anatolia Railway Company are having surveys carried out with a view to doubling the line between Haïdar-pacha and Pendik.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Names of Aniline Dye Manufacturers Wanted.

A communication has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from H.M. Consul at Chicago (Mr. A. Finn) reporting that he has received an enquiry for the names of United Kingdom manufacturers of aniline dyes from a firm who desire to be placed in communication with such.

Communications should be addressed to H.M. Consul, British Consulate, Chicago.

CHILE.

Railway Plant.

The "Diario Oficial" of Chile of 26th December publishes a Decree authorising "La Americana" Nitrate Company to construct two narrow gauge branch lines from the railway between Aguas Blancas and the coast to certain nitrate "Oficinas."

The "Diario" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

ARGENTINA.

Machinery.

According to the "Review of the River Plate" (Buenos Aires) of 30th December, the Government of the Province of Corrientes have submitted to the Provincial Legislature a scheme for the erection of a cotton ginning factory, to be fitted up with the most modern machinery, and also of a factory for the extraction of vegetable oils, &c. Both factories are to be completed within two years from date of contract.

FOREIGN TRADE OF RUSSIA.

With reference to the article which appeared on p. 161 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 26th January summarising the statistics of the foreign trade of Russia during the first nine months of 1904, it is to be observed that the figures of imports and exports contained therein relate solely to trade across the European and Black Sea frontiers of the Russian Empire.

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IMPORT TRADE OF THE TRANSVAAL.

With reference to the statement on p. 110 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 19th January, the following table, showing the value of the principal and other articles imported into the Transvaal during the eleven months ended 30th November, 1904, as compared with the corresponding period of 1903, has been compiled from official figures published in the "Transvaal Government Gazette" of 20th January :—

Imports.

Articles.	Eleven Months ended 30th Nov., 1903.	Eleven Months ended 30th Nov., 1904.
	£	£
Metals and manufactures of (*includes agricultural implements, hardware, iron and steel manufactures, machinery, wire rope, &c.*)	3,504,000	2,338,000
Provisions, exclusive of corn and dairy products (*includes coffee, chicory, biscuits, meats, fresh and preserved, fish, fresh and preserved, jams, sugar, tea, vegetables, fruits, condiments, salt, &c.*) ...	2,334,000	1,953,000
Apparel, haberdashery, &c. (*includes hats*)	2,336,000	1,430,000
Corn and grain (*includes flour, meal and rice*) ...	1,509,000	1,026,000
Wood and manufactures (*includes furniture*)	1,532,000	775,000
Dairy products (*includes butter and butterine, eggs, cheese, preserved milk, &c.*)	653,000	525,000
Leather and manufactures (*includes saddlery and boots and shoes*)	693,000	430,000
Drugs and chemicals	473,000	425,000
Beverages (*includes ale, spirits, wine and mineral waters*)	574,000	384,000
Live animals	548,000	318,000
Arms and ammunition (*includes dynamite and other explosives*)	109,000	268,000
Groceries and oilmen's stores (*includes oils and paints*)	367,000	266,000
Stationery and paper (*includes wall paper and books*)	335,000	250,000
Vehicles (*includes cycles and accessories*)	538,000	245,000
Soap and candles	232,000	219,000
Cotton manufactures	294,000	202,000
Tobacco, raw and manufactured (*includes cigars and cigarettes*)	193,000	182,000
Tramway material...	76,000	162,000
Jewellery and plated ware (*includes clocks and watches*)	195,000	154,000
Woollen manufactures	235,000	114,000
Instruments, musical and other	111,000	68,000
Glass and glassware	107,000	68,000
Cocoa, chocolate, and confectionery	91,000	68,000
Electric cable wire and fittings	60,000	65,000
Seeds, trees and plants	123,000	51,000
Bags (not leather or canvas)	53,000	40,000
Earthenware and crockery	74,000	38,000
Toys and sporting goods	50,000	38,000
Cement and lime	38,000	37,000
Fuse	33,000	28,000
Carpets	82,000	23,000
Coal, coke and patent fuel	8,000	20,000
Photographic material	32,000	19,000
Tobacconist ware	31,000	19,000
Linen manufactures	34,000	8,000
Other articles of merchandise	266,000	181,000
Total... ... ... £	17,923,000	12,437,000

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Import Trade of the Transvaal.

Of the total value of merchandise imported into the Transvaal during the first eleven months of 1904, 4,512,000*l.* worth were sent *viâ* Cape Colony, 5,545,000*l.* worth *viâ* Natal, and 2,380,000*l.* worth *viâ* Delagoa Bay.

NOTE.—The above figures do not include free importations for Local Government or Military Stores, or Railway Material imported as "Government Stores."

TRADE OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND BRITISH POSSESSIONS.

The following summary table has been prepared in the Board of Trade, showing the total imports and exports of merchandise of the principal countries for which the particulars can be given up to November, 1904, inclusive, and referring in all cases to the same period, viz., the eleven months ended November. The corresponding figures for 1903 and 1902 are added for comparison:—

—	Imports (*see* NOTE that follows tables). Eleven Months ended November.			Exports (Domestic) (*see* NOTE that follows tables). Eleven Months ended November.		
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Belgium*	84,010,000	92,100,000	95,531,000	66,528,000	71,215,000	73,581,000
France...	159,094,000	172,054,000	162,870,000	153,559,000	153,103,000	159,398,000
Spain*...	28,923,000	30,571,000	30,295,000	27,305,000	30,249,000	30,802,000
Italy	64,198,000	67,297,000	66,785,000	52,731,000	55,109,000	57,071,000
Austria-Hungary ...	65,225,000	70,755,000	76,815,000	72,959,000	81,387,000	79,133,000
Egypt	13,629,000	15,424,000	18,613,000	15,841,000	16,927,000	18,676,000
United States... ...	182,283,000	191,193,000	195,705,000	247,366,000	267,616,000	267,162,000
Japan	24,810,000	29,318,000	33,682,000	22,999,000	26,340,000	29,104,000
British India... ...	47,978,000	50,007,000	57,790,000	75,405,000	87,655,000	95,309,000
Canada	39,116,000	47,062,000	47,220,000	38,328,000	40,519,000	35,321,000
United Kingdom ...	420,425,000	426,867,000	434,642,000	259,284,000	266,278,000	272,746,000

* Value of *principal* articles only.

A comparison of the total figures for the twelve months ended 31st December is possible for four countries, as follows, viz.:—

—	Imports (*see* NOTE). Twelve Months ended December.			Exports (Domestic) (*see* NOTE). Twelve Months ended December.		
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Belgium*	92,217,000	101,689,000	104,758,000	74,347,000	79,875,000	82,211,000
France...	175,761,000	192,048,000	181,458,000	170,087,000	170,090,000	179,020,000
United States ...	201,941,000	207,395,000	215,814,000	277,764,000	303,676,000	297,030,000
United Kingdom ...	462,576,000	473,027,000	481,040,000	283,424,000	290,800,000	300,818,000

* Value of *principal* articles only.

NOTE.—In the case of Belgium, France, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Egypt, Japan, Canada, *and United Kingdom*, the import figures given in the above summaries represent imports for

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Trade of Foreign Countries and British Possessions.

home consumption only, *i.e.*, excluding re-exports. In all cases the export figures are intended to represent exports of domestic produce. In most cases, however, they include a certain amount of "nationalised" goods, *i.e.*, goods originally imported for consumption, and which, if dutiable, have been charged with duty, but which are subsequently re-exported.

The latest figures available as regards other countries from which returns are received by the Board of Trade, are as follow:—

—	Imports.			Exports (Domestic).		
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Russia* (9 months)...	41,087,000	46,292,000	46,220,000	62,150,000	73,919,000	69,267,000
Germany (9 months)	207,677,000	220,378,000	227,857,000	171,262,000	184,161,000	187,424,000
Switzerland (9 ,,)	31,220,000	33,428,000	34,586,000	25,086,000	25,703,000	25,571,000
Portugal (7 months)...	7,175,000	7,999,000	8,378,000	3,648,000	3,836,000	4,068,000
Mexico† (9 months)...	10,947,000	11,281,000	11,705,000	11,379,000	11,860,000	12,629,000

* European and Black Sea Frontiers.

† The values of the imports are stated in gold, and the dollar has been converted into English currency at the rate of 4*s*. The values of the exports are stated in silver, and the dollar has been converted into English currency for the years ended 30th June, 1902, 1903, 1904, at 1*s*. 9½*d*., 1*s*. 8*d*., and 1*s*. 10*d*. respectively; 1*s*. 11*d*. has been taken for the first three months (July, August and September) of the year 1904–5. The figures for Mexico include bullion and specie.

For detailed particulars regarding the trade of the several countries, reference should be made to the "Accounts relating to the Trade and Commerce of certain Foreign Countries and British Possessions," including figures received up to 31st January, published by Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, E.C.

SILK CONDITIONED AT EUROPEAN SILK CENTRES.

With reference to the article on p. 450 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 8th September, 1904, the following statistics have been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul at Milan (Mr. J. H. Towsey), showing the amount of silk conditioned at Milan during the years 1903 and 1904, as compared with the silk conditioned at other European silk centres during the same years:—

Silk Centres.	1903.					1904.				
	Organzine.	Tram.	Raw.	Other.	Total.	Organzine.	Tram.	Raw.	Other.	Total.
	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.
Milan	359,025	1,376,270	5,669,475	177,670	8,585,240	1,287,905	1,264,255	6,325,045	345,300	9,222,505
Lyons	777,854	868,317	4,273,791	73,875	5,993,837	829,746	993,358	4,610,390	62,190	6,495,684
St. Etienne	449,698	198,328	242,039	6,447	896,512	504,878	214,528	326,095	1,857	1,047,358
Zurich	451,908	530,450	353,688	—	1,336,046	523,648	622,573	376,041	—	1,522,262
Crefeld ...	256,485	183,408	83,887	12,475	536,255	284,970	205,056	87,602	13,619	591,247
Basle	203,623	144,853	159,639	1,066	509,178	271,025	154,389	173,527	546	599,487
Turin	214,970	18,237	199,772	—	432,979	270,858	23,590	212,211	4,679	511,338
Elberfeld ..	234,607	116,460	141,031	—	492,098	292,118	133,476	177,311	—	602,905

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PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES.

PERSIA.

Postponement of Proposed Increase in Customs Duties.

With reference to the notice which appeared in the "Journal" for the 2nd February on the subject of a proposed increase in the rates of the Persian Customs Tariff, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of telegraphic information from H.M. Minister at Tehran to the effect that the proposed increase has been postponed for the present, and that no date has yet been fixed for its enforcement. It is understood that due notice will be given by the Persian Government before any increase is made.

TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

BRITISH INDIA.

Tariff Valuations.

The following further list of the general duties under the Import Tariff of British India is in continuation of that published on pp. 259–61 of last week's "Journal":—

SCHEDULE IV.—IMPORT TARIFF *(continued)*.

No.	Names of Articles.	Per	Tariff Valuation.	Duty.
	OTHER ARTICLES, UNMANUFACTURED AND MANUFACTURED.			
17	Apparel, including drapery, haberdashery, and millinery, and military and other uniforms and accoutrements; but excluding cotton hosiery (for which see No. 30) and boots and shoes (for which see No. 45), and excluding also uniforms and accoutrements appertaining thereto, imported by a public servant for his personal use, which are free.	...	*ad val.*	5 %
18	Art, works of, except (1) statuary and pictures intended to be put up for the public benefit in a public place, and (2) memorials of a public character intended to be put up in a public place, including the materials used, or to be used, in their construction, whether worked or not, which are free.	...	"	"
19	Bamboos, common, grass, hay, rushes, straw, and leaves.	...	...	Free.
20	Books, printed, including covers for printed books, maps, charts, and plans, proofs, music, and manuscripts.	...	...	"
21	Bristles and fibre, for brushes and brooms ...	...	...	"
22	Brushes and brooms, all sorts	...	*ad val.*	5 %
23	Building and engineering materials, namely, asphalte, bricks and tiles, cement of all kinds, fire-clay, earthenware piping, lime, and other kinds not otherwise described.	...	"	"

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

SCHEDULE IV.—IMPORT TARIFF—*continued.*

No.	Names of Articles.	Per	Tariff Valuation.	Duty.
	OTHER ARTICLES, &c.—*contd.*		R. a.	
24	Cabinet-ware and furniture	...	*ad val.*	5 %
25	Carriages and carts, including motor cars, bicycles, tricycles, jinrikshas, bath chairs, perambulators, trucks, wheel-barrows, and all other sorts of conveyances, and component parts thereof, but excluding motor cars, designed to carry goods and containing a prime-mover, which are free.	...	"	"
26	Chinese and Japanese-ware, including lacquered-ware, but excluding earthenware, china, and porcelain (for which see No. 32).	...	"	"
27	Clocks, watches, and other time-keepers, and parts thereof.	...	"	"
28	Coal, coke, and patent fuel	...	...	Free.
29	Cordage, rope and twine made of any vegetable fibre.	...	*ad val.*	5 %
30	Cotton, and articles made of cotton—			
	Cotton, raw	...	...	Free.
	" twist and yarn	...	...	"
	" sewing thread	...	...	"
	" piece-goods, hosiery, and all other manufactured cotton goods not otherwise described.	...	*ad val.*	3½ %
31	Earth, common clay, and sand...	...	...	Free.
32	Earthenware (except earthenware piping, for which see No. 23), china, china clay, porcelain, and imitation or false coral.	...	*ad val.*	5 %
33	Fans of all kinds, except common palm-leaf fans, which are free.	...	"	"
34	Fireworks, all sorts, including fulminating powder.	...	"	"
35	Flax, and articles made of flax, including linen-thread.	...	"	"
36	Furniture, tackle, and apparel, not otherwise described, for steam, sailing, rowing and other vessels.	...	"	"
37	Gums, gum-resins, and articles made of gum or gum-resin—			
	Copal	...	"	"
	Cutch and gambier	cwt.	23 0	"
	Gamboge	lb.	1 8	"
	Gum ammoniac	cwt.	10 0	"
	" Arabic	"	13 0	"
	" bdellium	...	*ad val.*	"
	" Benjamin, ras	cwt.	20 0	"
	" " cowrie	"	70 0	"
	" bysabol (coarse myrrh)	"	20 0	"
	" olibanum or frankincense	...	...	Free.
	" Persian (false)	cwt.	10 8	5 %
	Myrrh	"	38 0	"
	Rosin	"	6 0	"
	All other sorts of gums, gum-resins, and articles made of gum or gum-resin, including caoutchouc and gutta-percha.	...	*ad val.*	"

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

SCHEDULE IV.—IMPORT TARIFF—*continued.*

No.	Names of Articles.	Per	Tariff Valuation.	Duty.
	OTHER ARTICLES, &c.—*contd.*		R. a	
38	Hemp, including Manila hemp, and articles made therefrom.	...	*ad val.*	5 %
39	Hides and skins (except raw or salted hides and skins, which are free), including parchment and vellum, gold beaters' skins, and all other descriptions of hides or skins.	...	"	"
40	Horn	...	...	Free.
	" articles made of, not otherwise described	...	*ad val.*	5 %
41	Instruments, apparatus and appliances, and parts thereof—			
	Computing, dental, distilling, diving, drawing, educational, electric, electric lighting, galvanic, measuring, musical, optical, philosophical, phonographic, photographic (including materials for photography), scientific, surgical, surveying, telegraphic, telephonic, typewriters, and all other sorts, except telegraphic instruments and apparatus, and parts thereof, when imported by or under the orders of a railway company, and any instruments, apparatus, and appliances when imported by a passenger as part of his personal baggage, and in actual use by him in the exercise of his profession or calling, which are free. Military band instruments (other than stringed instruments), imported by a regiment of His Majesty's regular forces serving in India, and certified by the officer commanding the regiment to be for the *bona fide* exclusive use of the regimental band, and the following accessories thereto, are also free of duty :—			
	Silver buckles for drums.			
	Silver buttons for drums.			
	Green broadcloth for drums.			
	Green silk ribbon for drums.			
	Ropes for drums.			
	Bags for bagpipes.			
	Cord for bagpipes.			
	Drones for bagpipes.			
	Ribbons for bagpipes.			
	Pipe tassels for bagpipes.			
	Cardholders.			
	Carriages (brown or black).			
	Crooks.			
	Cases (leather or wooden).			
	Fingertops.			
	Mouthpieces and caps therefor.			
	Reeds.			
	Springs.			
	Snares.			
	Valve tops and needles.			

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

SCHEDULE IV.—IMPORT TARIFF—*continued.*

No.	Names of Articles.	Per	Tariff Valuation.	Duty.
	OTHER ARTICLES, &c.—*contd.*		R. a.	
42	Ivory and ivory ware—			
	Unmanufactured—			
	Elephants' grinders	cwt.	350 0	5 %
	" tusks (other than hollows, centres and points) each exceeding 20 lbs. in weight, and hollows, centres, and points each weighing 10 lbs. and over.	"	750 0	"
	Elephants' tusks (other than hollows, centres, and points) not less than 10 lbs. and not exceeding 20 lbs. each, and hollows, centres, and points each weighing less than 10 lbs.	"	650 0	"
	Elephants' tusks, each less than 10 lbs. (other than hollows, centres, and points).	"	500 0	"
	Sea-cow or moye teeth, each not less than 4 lbs.	"	200 0	"
	Sea-cow or moye teeth, each not less than 3 lbs. and under 4 lbs.	"	185 0	"
	Sea-cow or moye teeth, each less than 3 lbs.	"	135 0	"
	All other sorts, manufactured and unmanufactured.	...	*ad val.*	"
43	Jewellery and jewels, including plate and other manufactures of gold and silver—			
	Silver-ware, plain, other than European...	tola	1 0	"
	" embossed or chased, other than European.	"	1 4	"
	All other sorts, except precious stones and pearls, unset, which are free.	...	*ad val.*	"
44	Jute—			
	Raw	...	...	Free.
	Articles made of, except secondhand or used gunny bags, which are free.	...	*ad val.*	5 %
45	Leather, and articles made of leather, including boots and shoes, harness and saddlery, except saddlery of a military pattern imported by an officer of His Majesty's regular forces and forming part of the equipment with which he is required to supply himself under Army Regulations, which is free.	...	"	"
46	Malt	...	"	"
47	Manures of all kinds, including animal bones	...	...	Free.
48	Oilcake, also bran, fodder, and cattle food of all kinds.	...	...	"
49	Oil-cloth and floor-cloth, including lincrusta, linoleum and tarpaulins.	...	*ad val.*	5 %
50	Paints, colours, painters' materials, and compositions for application to leather, wood, and metals—			
	Lead, red, dry	cwt.	13 0	"
	" white, dry	"	16 0	"

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

SCHEDULE IV.—IMPORT TARIFF—*continued.*

No.	Names of Articles.	Per	Tariff Valuation.	Duty.
	OTHER ARTICLES, &c.—*contd.*		R. a.	
	Paints, &c.—*contd.*			
	Ochre, other than European, all colours ...	cwt.	1 8	5 %
	Paints, composition	...	*ad val.*	"
	" patent driers	...	"	"
	Turpentine	imp. gal.	3 0	"
	Verdigris	...	*ad val.*	"
	Vermilion, Canton	box of 90 bundles.	107 0	"
	Zinc, white, dry	...	*ad val.*	"
	All other sorts, including glue and putty...	...	"	"
51	Paper, pasteboard, millboard, and cardboard of all kinds, including ruled or printed forms and account and manuscript books, labels, advertising circulars, sheet or card almanacks and calendars, Christmas, Easter, and other cards, including cards in booklet form, and including also waste paper and old newspapers for packing, but excluding trade catalogues and advertising circulars imported by packet, book or parcel post, which are free.	...	"	"
	Paper, articles made of paper and papier-mâché	...	"	"
52	Perfumery—			
	Gowla, husked and unhusked	cwt.	40 0	"
	Kapurkachri (zedoary)	"	14 8	"
	Patch leaves (patchouli)	"	23 0	"
	Rose-flowers, dried	"	15 8	"
	Rose-water	imp. gal.	2 0	"
	All other sorts, except perfumed spirit (*a*)	...	*ad val.*	"
53	Pitch, tar and dammer—			
	Bitumen	...	"	"
	Dammer	cwt.	5 0	"
	Pitch, American and European	...	*ad val.*	"
	" coal	cwt.	3 8	"
	Tar, American and European	"	6 8	"
	" coal	"	4 0	"
	" mineral	...	*ad val.*	"
54	Plants and bulbs, living, also dried for herbaria	...	...	Free.
55	Precious stones and pearls, unset (including the stones generically known as Cambay stones, such as agates, cornelians, and onyx).	...	...	"
56	Pulp of wood, straw, rags, paper, and other materials.	...	...	"
57	Printing and lithographic material, namely, presses, type, ink, brass rules, composing sticks, chases, imposing tables, and lithographic stones, and stereo-blocks, but not including paper.	...	...	"
58	Rags	...	...	"
59	Racks for the withering of tea leaf	...	...	"

(*a*) The duty on perfumed spirit in wood or bottle, under Schedule III., is fixed at Rs. 8 per Imperial gallon or 6 quart bottles.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

SCHEDULE IV.—IMPORT TARIFF—*continued.*

No.	Names of Articles.	Per	Tariff Valuation.	Duty.
	OTHER ARTICLES, &c.—*contd.*		R. a.	
60	Railway material for permanent-way and rolling-stock, namely, cylinders, girders, and other material for bridges, rails, sleepers, bearing and fish-plates, fish-bolts, chairs, spikes, crossings, sleeper fastenings, switches, interlocking apparatus, brake gear, couplings and springs, signals, turn-tables, weigh-bridges, engines, tenders, carriages, waggons, traversers, trollies, trucks, and component parts thereof; also the following articles when imported by or under the orders of a railway company, namely, cranes, water cranes, water tanks, and standards, wire and other materials for fencing :—	...	...	Free.
	Provided that for the purpose of this exemption "railway" means a line of railway subject to the provisions of the Indian Railways Act, 1890, and includes a railway constructed in a Native State under the suzerainty of His Majesty, and also such tramways as the Governor-General in Council may, by notification in the "Gazette of India," specifically include therein			
61	Seeds—			
	Castor...	cwt.	4 8	5 %
	Cummin	"	11 8	"
	" black	...	*ad val.*	"
	Linseed	cwt.	5 0	"
	Methi	"	4 0	"
	Mustard, rape or sarson	"	6 0	"
	Poppy...	"	5 0	"
	Quince, bihidana	"	52 0	"
	Til or jinjili	"	6 0	"
	All other sorts	...	*ad val.*	"
62	Shells and cowries—			
	Chanks—large shells, for cameos	...	"	"
	" white, live...	...	"	"
	" " dead	...	"	"
	Cowras	...	"	"
	Cowries, bazar, common	cwt.	3 8	"
	" yellow, superior quality	"	5 0	"
	" Maldive	"	5 8	"
	" sankhla	"	56 0	"
	Mother-of-pearl, nacre	...	...	Free.
	Nakhla	cwt.	60 0	5 %
	Tortoiseshell	lb.	7 0	"
	" nakh	"	4 0	"
	All other sorts, including articles made of shell, not otherwise described.	...	*ad val.*	"
63	Ships and other vessels for inland and harbour navigation, including steamers, steam-launches, boats and barges, imported entire or in sections.	...	...	Free.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

SCHEDULE IV.—IMPORT TARIFF—*continued.*

No.	Names of Articles.	Per.	Tariff Valuation.	Duty.
	OTHER ARTICLES, &c.—*contd.*		R. a.	
64	Silk, and articles made of silk—			
	Bokhara	lb.	9 0	5 %
	Floss	...	*ad val.*	"
	Piece-goods	...	"	"
	Sewing thread, China	...	"	"
	Raw silk—Chaharam, Cochin-China, and Yellow Shanghai.	lb.	5 12	"
	Mathow	"	2 12	"
	Other kinds of China	"	6 8	"
	Waste and Kachra	...	*ad val.*	"
	Panjam	lb.	2 0	"
	Persian	"	5 0	"
	Siam	"	2 0	"
	All other sorts, including cocoons... ...	...	*ad val.*	"
65	Soap	...	"	"
66	Specimens illustrative of Natural Science, including also antique coins and medals.	...	...	Free.
67	Stationery, excluding paper (for which see No. 51).	...	*ad val.*	5 %
68	Stone and marble, and articles made of stone and marble.	...	"	"
69	Tallow and grease, including stearine... ...	...	"	"
70	Tea-chests of metal or wood, whether imported entire or in sections, provided that the Customs Collector is satisfied that they are imported for the purpose of the packing of tea for transport in bulk.	...	...	Free.
71	Textile fabrics not otherwise described ...	...	*ad val.*	5 %
72	Toilet requisites not otherwise described ...	...	"	"
73	Toys, including toy-books, and requisites for all games.	...	"	"
74	Umbrellas, parasols, and sunshades of all kinds	...	"	"
75	Walking sticks and sticks for umbrellas, parasols, and sunshades of all kinds, mounted and unmounted, driving, riding, and other whips, fishing rods and lines.	...	"	"
76	Wood and timber (except fire-wood, which is free), and articles made of wood not otherwise described.	...	"	"
77	Wool, raw...	...	...	Free.
	" articles made of, including felt... ...	...	*ad val.*	5 %
78	All other articles, manufactured or unmanufactured, not described in this schedule.	...	"	"

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

GOLD COAST—WEST OF THE VOLTA.

New Customs Tariff.

With reference to the notice which appeared in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 5th January last respecting the Kwitta (*East* of the Volta) Customs Tariff, the Board of Trade have now received a copy of "The Customs Tariff Ordinance, 1904" (No. 13 of 1904), which repeals the various Customs Tariff Ordinances* previously in force, and, at the same time, regulates the imposition of new duties, as from 1st January, 1905, on goods imported into the Gold Coast Colony, *West* of the Volta.

It is provided by the present Ordinance that goods brought from that part of the Colony East of the Volta, to any other part of the Colony shall be subject to an amount of duty equal to the difference between the duty paid on such goods under the "Kwitta Customs Tariff Ordinance of 1904" and the Ordinance under notice.

The duties on wines, firearms, cartridges (filled), oil, salt, lumber, cement and various kinds of provisions have undergone alteration, whilst the "free list" has been much extended. For the purpose of reference, the full Tariff, as now in force, is given below:—

Articles.	Rates of Duty. £	s.	d.
1. On ale, beer and porter of all kinds, cider and perry, the Imperial gallon or part thereof	0	1	0
2. On still wines (other than medicated wines), the Imperial gallon or part thereof	0	1	6
3. On sparkling wines, the Imperial gallon or part thereof ...	0	3	0
4. (*a*) On brandy, gin, rum, liqueurs and miscellaneous spirits or strong waters not being sweetened or mixed with any article so that the degree of strength cannot be ascertained by Sykes hydrometer, not exceeding the strength of proof, the Imperial gallon or part thereof	0	4	6
(*b*) And for every degree or part of a degree over proof an additional duty, the Imperial gallon or part thereof ...	0	0	2
(*c*) On alcoholic bitters, gin and liqueurs being sweetened or mixed with any article so that the degree of strength cannot be ascertained as aforesaid, the Imperial gallon or part thereof	0	4	6
(*d*) On brandy, rum and miscellaneous spirits or strong waters being sweetened or mixed with any article so that the degree of strength cannot be ascertained as aforesaid, the Imperial gallon or part thereof	0	15	0
5. On manufactured tobacco, cigars or snuff, the pound or part thereof	0	1	0
6. On unmanufactured tobacco, the pound or part thereof ...	0	0	4
7. On gunpowder, the pound or part thereof	0	0	6
8. On firearms—			
(*a*) Rifles, each	0	10	0
(*b*) Guns, other than flint-lock guns, for sporting purposes, each	0	5	0
(*c*) Revolvers, and pistols other than flint-lock pistols, each	0	2	6
(*d*) Flint-lock guns and pistols, each	0	2	0

* Nos. 12 and 19 of 1898; 3 and 9 of 1900; and 5 of 1901

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

GOLD COAST—WEST OF THE VOLTA—*continued.*

Articles.	Rates of Duty. £	s.	d.
9. On swords and bayonets (except swords of native West African manufacture) each	1	0	0
10. On cartridges—			
(*a*) Filled. For rifles and guns, the hundred or part thereof	0	5	0
(*b*) Filled. For revolvers and pistols, the hundred or part thereof	0	2	6
(*c*) Unfilled, the hundred or part thereof	0	1	0
11. On percussion caps, the hundred or part thereof	0	1	0
12. On lead, in any form, the pound or part thereof	0	0	0½
13. On mineral and aërated water, in bottles irrespective of size, the dozen or part thereof	0	0	4
14. On oil—kerosine, rock, Rangoon or Burmah oil, or oil made from petroleum, coal, schist, shale, peat or other bituminous substance, or from any of the products of petroleum or of any of the above mentioned oils, refined so as to be suitable for illuminating purposes, the Imperial gallon or part thereof ...	0	0	1
15. On salt, fishery or coarse, not being refined, the hundredweight or part thereof	0	0	2½
16. On lumber, not prepared or manufactured to form any component part of buildings or other structures imported in sections, the hundred square feet (of one inch in thickness) or part thereof	0	1	0
17. On cement (Portland or Roman) and lime (hydraulic or water) the hundredweight or part thereof	0	0	3
18. On beef and pork (wet salted)—			
(*a*) In half barrels or kegs not exceeding one hundred pounds in weight, nett, each half barrel or keg...	0	2	6
(*b*) In barrels exceeding one hundred pounds in weight nett, for every hundred pounds or part thereof	0	2	6
19. On bread (pilot, cabin, or ships'), the hundredweight or part thereof	0	1	6
20. On flour when packed in barrels—			
(*a*) Not exceeding one hundred and ninety-six pounds weight nett, each barrel	0	2	0
(*b*) Exceeding one hundred and ninety-six pounds weight nett, for every hundred pounds or part thereof ...	0	1	3
21. On rice, the hundredweight or part thereof	0	1	0
22. On sugar, the hundredweight or part thereof	0	1	6
Goods not specifically charged with duty, and not exempted from duty...	10 % *ad val.*		

The following articles may be imported free of duty:—

1. Agricultural and gardening implements.
2. All goods imported by the Governor for his private use.
3. All goods officially imported for the use of His Majesty's troops.
4. All goods imported for the use of His Majesty's ships or for any officer or member of the crew serving on His Majesty's ships.
5. All goods imported with the sanction of the Governor for the service of any public department of the Colony.
6. Animals living, including poultry and game.
7. Arms, accoutrements, equipment and uniforms imported by

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GOLD COAST—WEST OF THE VOLTA—*continued.*

officers of His Majesty's army and navy and of any Colonial force of constabulary, volunteers and police for their personal use as required by the regulations of their respective services.

8. Apparatus and structural material for telegraphs, telephones, and electric lighting.

9. Bags and sacks specially imported for use in the exportation or inland carriage of West African produce.

10. Books printed, newspapers, maps, charts, and printed matter not being account books or stationery.

11. Camp equipment imported by civil and military officers for their personal use in the Colony and Protected Territories.

12. Carriages, carts, trucks and waggons, including go-carts, jinrikshaws, bath-chairs, perambulators, wheelbarrows and hand-trucks, including ready-made spare parts, but not material for repairs.

13. Coal and patent fuel being a composition of coal.

14. Coke.

15. Coins, British and other legally current in the Colony.

16. Consulates, official goods imported exclusively for the use of Consuls and Consulates.

17. Coopers' stores, including casks, shooks, hoops, rivets, rushes, tenter-hooks, and chalk specially imported for the packing of West African produce.

18. Cork-wood.

19. Cranes, derricks and winches, whole or in parts, and machinery necessary for working the same.

20. Educational appliances imported with the sanction of the Governor.

21. Filters and parts thereof and all appliances for the filtration of water.

22. Fish (fresh) not preserved in any way.

23. Fruit (fresh) not preserved in any way.

24. Goods admitted free of duty by order of the Governor in Council under section 7.

25. Harness and saddlery.

26. Ice, ice chests and refrigerators.

27. Instruments and appliances for:—
    - (*a*) Scientific purposes and research.
    - (*b*) Surveying land.

28. Machinery for the following purposes:—
    - (*a*) Agricultural.
    - (*b*) Electrical.
    - (*c*) Manufacturing,
    - (*d*) Marine.
    - (*e*) Mining and gold dredging.
    - (*f*) Pumping and boring for water.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

GOLD COAST—WEST OF THE VOLTA—*continued.*

(*g*) For use in connection with the preparation of any natural product of the Colony or the development of any industry in connection with such product.

29. Meat (fresh) not preserved in any way.

30. Memorial tablets and tomb stones, also railings and wreaths for graves.

31. Oil—kerosine, rock, Rangoon or Burmah oil, or oil made from petroleum, coal, schist, shale, peat, or other bituminous substance, or from any of the products of petroleum or of any of the above-mentioned oils, being imported for use as liquid fuel, and not capable of being used for illuminating purposes.

32. Passengers' baggage as defined by the Governor-in-Council.

33. Personal effects when satisfactory evidence is given to the Comptroller of Customs that they are being re-imported after a previous importation.

34. Plant, material and rolling stock for tramways.

35. Poultry and game (fresh) not preserved in any way.

36. Produce *bonâ fide* of West Africa.

37. Pumps and apparatus for raising and distributing water.

38. Quicksilver.

39. Railway plant, material and rolling stock.

40. Seeds, plants, bulbs, roots, shrubs and trees imported for agricultural or horticultural purposes.

41. Slates, tiles, and galvanised iron when to be used for roofing purposes only.

42. Tools of all kinds.

43. Vegetables (fresh) not preserved in any way.

44. Vehicles possessing their own means of propulsion, including ready-made spare parts but not accessories or material for repairs.

45. Velocipedes and ready-made parts thereof, but not accessories or material for repairs.

46. Vessels, including: Lighters, boats, canoes and steam and other launches with their necessary fittings and tackle such as masts, ores, sails, anchors, chains, &c., provided such fittings and tackle are imported together with the vessel.

47. Water tanks and vats.

GRENADA.

Volatile Petroleum Regulations.

A copy of the Regulations for the importation, storage, &c., of "Volatile Petroleum" in Grenada has been received, which were approved by the Governor-in-Council on 14th October last.

Under the present Regulations, volatile petroleum may only be imported into the Colony by persons to

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whom a licence has been granted by the Governor-in-Council, and must be landed and stored in the petroleum warehouse or in a registered storehouse. It can only be imported in metal vessels, so substantially constructed as not to be liable, under ordinary circumstances, to be broken or become defective or insecure. Every such vessel, when used for conveying or keeping "volatile petroleum" shall bear the words "volatile petroleum, highly inflammable," legibly and indelibly stamped or marked thereon.

MAURITIUS.

Importation of "Bloomer."

A copy of a Proclamation (No. 52 of 1904) has been received from the Collector of Customs at Port Louis, notifying that, under Article 99 (iii.) of Ordinance No. 17 of 1901, the substance commonly known as "bloomer" (a colouring matter for sugar) shall be added to the list of substances which, when imported for use in local manufactures, are subject to a duty of 30 cents per 1,000 kilos.

[NOTE.—Under Ordinance No. 21 of 1904, a surcharge of 20 per cent. of the duties leviable is also imposed.]

EGYPT.

Valuation Tariff for certain Metals.

The Egyptian "Journal Officiel" for the 30th January contains the following revised Valuation Tariff for use in assessing import duties on certain imported metals and metal manufactures. This Tariff came into force on the 1st February, and is to remain in force until the 28th February or until denunciation.

Articles.	Valuation per Kilog.†	
	Former.	New.
	Millièmes.‡	Millièmes.‡
Copper and brass sheets, round and bottoms	70	73
" sheets, plain	67	70
" sheets in rolls, bars, round and flat	67	70
" ingots	64	67
" wire	*ad val.*	*ad val.*
Brass wire	"	"
" sheets, plain, 24 by 48, 8 lbs. to 5 lbs.	"	"
Tin ingots and bars	125	126
Lead sheets	13½	14
" shot	14¾	15
" pipe	13¾	14
" pig	12¾	13
Zinc sheets	23½	24
" ingots	23½	24
Phosphor bronze	100	100
Antimony	40	40
Quicksilver	270	270

† Duty is levied on these valuations at the rate of 8 per cent.
‡ 1,000 millièmes = £E1 = 1*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

RUSSIA.

Tariff Classification of Corrugated Iron.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that, in accordance with a circular of the Russian Department of Customs, corrugated and embossed sheet iron, declared as a raw material for industrial or trade use, is to pay duty under No. 140 of the Tariff as ordinary sheet iron.

FRANCE.

Customs Decisions.

The following Decisions relative to the application of the French Customs Tariff and Customs Regulations are contained in recent circulars of the French Customs Department:—

Manufacturing tax on alcohol.—In accordance with a Decree of 18th February, 1904, the manufacturing tax on products with a base of "industrial alcohol,"* has been increased from the 1st January, 1905, from 80 cts. to 1 fr. 37 cts. per hectol. of pure alcohol.

Nancy.—A Customs warehouse (*entrepôt réel*) was opened at Nancy on the 1st January last.

Denaturation of Methylic Alcohol.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy of a French Presidential Decree, dated the 4th January, providing that, in order to be considered unfit for consumption as a beverage, and exempt from charges for inspection and denaturation, methylic alcohol must contain at least 5 per cent. of acetone and 3 per cent. of pyrogeneous impurities, which impart to it a disagreeable empyreumatic odour.

* *See* "Board of Trade Journal" for 30th January, 1902, p. 214.

FRENCH IVORY COAST.

Import Duty on Coffee.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy of a French Presidential Decree, dated the 4th February, imposing a duty of 78 francs per 100 kilogs. on coffee of any origin imported into the French Ivory Coast.

ITALY.

Forthcoming Tariff Alterations (*continued from p.* 272 *of last week's "Journal."*)

Tariff No.	Description of Articles.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs.	
		At present.	From 1st July.
		Lire. cts.	Lire. cts.
Ad 96 (*a*)	*Note.*—Tarpaulins (*bâches*) made of the tissues included under this heading are subject to the duty on the tissues increased by 10 per cent.*		

* No surtax is levied under present tariff.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ITALY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Description of Articles.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs. At present.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs. From 1st July.
		Lire cts.	Lire cts.
Ad 96 (*b*)	*Note.*—Linen and cotton cloths for hangings ("Salubra," "Tekko," &c.) coated with an oily substance, or coloured, printed, bronzed, or goffered, are entitled to conventional treatment under this heading.*		
Ex 100	Plaits and strips for hats, of gummed threads of hemp, jute, or ramie, even with warp of cotton thread...	110 00	65 00
Ex 104 (*b*)	Cotton wool for surgical purposes	9 00	9 00
Ex 105 (*a*)	Cotton yarn, single, unbleached, measuring per half kilog.—		
	(3) More than 20,000, but not more than 30,000 metres	27 00	24 00
	(4) More than 30,000 but not more than 40,000 metres	33 00	No change
	(5) More than 40,000 but not more than 50,000 metres	42 00	"
	(6) More than 50,000 but not more than 60,000 metres	50 00	"
105 (*c*)	Cotton yarn, dyed [even mercerised†] ...	Duty on unbleached + 25 lire per 100 kilogs.	Conventional duty on unbleached + 15 lire per 100 kilogs.
Ex 106	Cotton yarn, twisted (single twist), measuring per half kilog.—		
	Not more than 30,000 metres	Conventional duty on single yarns + 17 lire per 100 kilogs.	Conventional duty on single yarns + 13 lire per 100 kilogs.
	More than 30,000 metres...		Conventional duty on single yarns + 15 lire per 100 kilogs.
	Note.—Twisted yarns of multiple twist, composed of two elementary threads of single twist, are entitled to conventional treatment under this heading whatever their thickness, and even if they are bleached or dyed, and, if dyed, even if they are mercerised.‡		
Ad category VI.	*General note to cotton tissues.*—All tissues the texture (*intreccio*) of which is composed of more than 20 warp threads or more than 20 weft threads are treated as figured.§		
Ad 112-9 & 124	*Note.*—Tissues having a bluish [cream, &c.†] tint due to sizing, are treated as bleached and not dyed tissues.‖		

* Apparently in substantial agreement with existing practice.
† Words in brackets added in new treaty.
‡ As in existing treaty.
§ Agrees with existing practice.
‖ As in existing treaty.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ITALY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Description of Articles.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs. At present.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs. From 1st July.
		Lire cts.	Lire cts.
112 (*b*)	Cotton tissues, unbleached, plain—		
	Weighing 7 kilogs. or more, but less than 13 kilogs. per 100 sq. metres. having in warp and weft, in the square of 5 mm.—		
	(1) 27 elementary threads or less ...	67 00	No change.
	(2) More than 27 but not more than 38 elementary threads	78 00	"
	(3) More than 38 threads	90 00	"
(*c*)	Weighing 3 kilogs. or more, but less than 7 kilogs. per 100 sq. metres, having in warp and weft, in the square of 5 mm.—		
	(1) 27 elementary threads or less ...	90 00	"
	(2) More than 27 but not more than 38 elementary threads	112 00	"
	(3) More than 38 elementary threads	126 00	"
Ex 112	Transmission belts of pure cotton, not sewn—		
	Impregnated with oil or other greasy substances, even with the addition of colouring substances	30 00 (Generally)	30 00
	Other	74 00	60 00
Ex 112	Cotton felt, woven, for the manufacture of wood pulp or straw pulp, cellulose, and paper, without regard to weight	62 00	60 00
113	Cotton tissues, bleached [(plain, figured, damasked, brocaded)*]	Duty on unbleached + 20 per cent.	Conventional duty on unbleached + 20 per cent.
Ex 113	Cotton tissues for surgical purposes, chemically pure, whether or not impregnated with antiseptic substances, in cuttings 5 metres long at most, or in strips 10 metres long at most	108 00	90 00
114 (*a*)	Cotton tissues, coloured on dyed—		
	Plain—		
	Weighing 13 kilogs. or more per 100 square metres	Duty on unbleached + 35 lire per 100 kilogs.	No change.
	Weighing 11 kilogs. or more, but less than 13 kilogs. per 100 square metres, and having in warp and weft in the square of 5 mm.—		
	(1) 27 elementary threads or less ...	102 00	85 00†
	(2) More than 27, but not more than 38 elementary threads ...	113 00	95 00†
	Weighing 7 kilogs. or more, but less than 11 kilogs. per 100 square metres, and having in warp and weft in the square of 5 mm.—		
	(1) 27 elementary threads or less ...	102 00	90 00†
	(2) More than 27, but not more than 38 elementary threads ...	113 00	100 00†
	Weighing 3 kilogs. or more, but less than 7 kilogs. per 100 square metres—	Duty on unbleached + 35 lire per 100 kilogs.	No change.
(*b*)	Figured or damasked, brocaded		

* Words in brackets added in new treaty.

† With an additional 5 lire per 100 kilogs. for *mercerised* tissues.

(*To be continued*).

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

VENEZUELA.

Importation of Cigarette Paper prohibited.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a translation of a Government Order published in the "Venezuelan Official Gazette" of the 18th January, prohibiting the importation into Venezuela of cigarette paper of any kind.

PANAMA.

Customs Regulations of the Panama Canal Zone.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of copies of five Circulars (Nos. 4—8) of the Isthmian Canal Commission, containing Executive Orders for the regulation of the Customs service of the Panama Canal Zone.

The substance of these Orders has already been noted in the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 5th January, 1905, but attention may be drawn to the following further provisions of these Orders:—

(1) The Executive Order of the 24th June, 1904*, imposing the Dingley Tariff in the Canal Zone, and enacting Customs regulations therefor, is cancelled; and new regulations are enacted. (The new regulations relate solely to the limits of the Customs jurisdiction of United States officers in the Canal Zone, and the duties and emoluments of such officers.)

(2) The material and stores for use in the construction of the Canal† (including clothing, furniture, provisions, &c., for the employees) which may be imported into Ancon and Cristobal, are defined; and it is provided that such imports must be accompanied by a certificate of a member of the Isthmian Canal Commission, or of the chief engineer of the Commission, or of the chief of the Department of Material and Supplies, to the effect that the goods so imported are for use in the construction of the Canal in the sense defined by the circular.

(3) Goods other than material and stores for the Canal may be landed at Ancon or Cristobal if in transit to any part of the Canal Zone or of the Republic, on payment of the proper duties to the Republic of Panama. Such goods must, however, be accompanied by a consular invoice issued by the Consul of the Republic of Panama at the port of consignment.

Similarly, free importation and consignment of goods and free transit of persons and vehicles from the Republic through the Canal Zone and from the terminal ports thereof (Ancon and Cristobal) is permitted.

Copies of these Circulars may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

* *See* "Board of Trade Journal" for the 30th June, 1904, p. 594.
† *See* "Board of Trade Journal" for the 5th January, 1905, pp. 28-9.

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SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

FRANCE.

New S.S. Service between La Pallice and Liverpool.

The British Vice-Consul at La Rochelle (Mr. C. J. Hamilton) reports that a direct steamship service between La Pallice (Rochelle) and Liverpool, at intervals of 15 days, is announced to begin running on the 20th February from La Pallice.

This line, it is stated, is being started with a view of supplying the British market with general produce from that part of France, as well as participating in the transport of French goods destined for North American ports, and transhipped at Liverpool.

FRANCE—EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

S.S. Service from Marseilles to Mombasa.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul-General at Marseilles (Mr. M. C. Gurney) reporting that the Messageries Maritimes Company have, from 1st January last, made Mombasa a port of call for their vessels leaving Marseilles for Madagascar on the 10th of each month.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Railway Rates for Goods.

Adverting to the notice published in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 14th January, 1904, respecting United States Trans-Continental and Trans-Pacific freight rates, a report on United States railways by the Hon. Robert Collier, Third Secretary in H.M. Embassy at Washington, has been issued recently by the Foreign Office. In this report particulars are given (pp. 11-16) regarding the classification and rates in force for the carriage of goods for typical itineraries in the United States. Those interested may obtain the report itself (*Foreign Office, Miscellaneous Series*, 627) from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, E.C.

No Railway Clearing House.

In the course of his report, Mr. Collier notes that the United States railways have not, so far, brought into existence a railway clearing house.

Permanent Way of United States Railways.

As regards the permanent way, Mr. Collier points out that in the United States the standard gauge is, as in Great Britain, 4 feet 8½ inches. Flat-footed rails laid upon transverse sleepers, without the intermediary of chairs, are practically always used. The rails are laid with broken joints (*i.e.*, the rail joints on either side are placed exactly or approximately opposite the middle points of the rails on the other side).

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Shipping and Transport.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

American Railway Association.

The American Railway Association, says Mr. Collier, is a body to which all American railways are entitled to appoint a representative, the bigger lines more than one. The chief object of the Association is to standardise all matters connected with railways that can advantageously be so treated.

COSTA RICA.

Reopening of Costa Rica Railway to traffic.

With reference to the notice on p. 31 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 5th January, and on p. 275 of last week's issue respecting damage caused to the Costa Rica Railway by floods and landslides, a telegram was received at the Foreign Office on the 8th February, from H.M. Consul at San José (Mr. F. Nutter Cox) reporting that the line from Limon has been reopened for through traffic.

MINERALS, METALS, AND MACHINERY.

BRITISH INDIA.

Petroleum Industry in Burma.

The following particulars of the prospects of the petroleum industry in Burma are based on an extract from a Government report on the administration of that Province in 1903-04, published in "Capital" (Calcutta) of the 11th January.

The chief centres of production are Yenangyaung in Magwe and Yenangyat in the Pakokku district, but the Burma Oil Company have also lately developed a new field at Singu in Myingyan, while the Akyab and Kyaukpyu districts are producing a small quantity of oil. The great expansion of the industry at the chief centres may be gauged from the fact that at Yenangyaung the Government royalty in 1903-04 amounted to Rs. 7,37,134 as against Rs. 5,68,429 in the year preceding; the output from the field increases steadily and there is no sign of exhaustion of the supply. Yenangyat is a newer field, and out of 50 blocks of about a square mile or so each, leased to the Burma, Rangoon, and Minbu Oil Companies, only five are paying royalty at present. The outturn from this field has risen to 22,356,904 gallons, and the revenue to Government from Rs. 2,22,837 to Rs, 2,93,022. Of the actual working at the Yenangyat field, the Burma Oil Company are working eight blocks, and have tested four others without finding oil. Royalty is being paid on one block by the Rangoon Oil Company, who are also obtaining a small amount of

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oil on several others. The Minbu Oil Company are working one block and are starting on two more. The Burma Oil Company's new field at Singu yielded the Government a royalty of Rs. 1,60,832. The Company also prospected for oil in Prome, but without success.

CEYLON.

Mineral Resources.

The subjoined particulars of the mineral resources of Ceylon are taken from a report [Cd. 2,341 of 1905] on the results of the Mineral Survey in that Colony in 1903-4 by the Director of the Imperial Institute (Professor W. R. Dunstan, M.A., LL.D., F.R.S.).

The following is a list of the mineral products from Ceylon, collected during the survey, or obtained from other sources, which have been investigated at the Imperial Institute:—

Ores of iron, manganese, and copper; ores containing thorium and cerium, the oxides of which are available for incandescent gas-lighting; graphite, mica, steatite, kaolin, laterite, asbestos, limestone, quartz, chert, corundum, and various gem-stones.

From Professor Dunstan's notes as to the mode of occurrence, the economic uses, and the commercial value of the more important of these minerals, the following have been culled:—

Manganese.—"The manganese ore does not appear to exist in such quantities as would make it available for export. The presence, however, of 1·61 of cobalt in the manganese ore from Ampitiya introduces a new and important element into the case. It is found profitable in New Caledonia to mine and export ore containing only 4 per cent. of cobalt oxide and no appreciable amount of any other valuable product. Further information should, therefore, be obtained as to the extent of these cobaltiferous manganese ores."

Limestone.—"The crystalline limestone is of the dolomitic variety, containing a large percentage of magnesia. It is not of any value except perhaps for local purposes.

"The travertine limestone from Hangiliella Oya is of better quality, and, as already stated, might be used with rice-field mud from the same locality for the manufacture of Portland cement. It would also furnish good lime."

Thorium minerals.—"By far the most important discovery connected with the operations of the Mineral Survey is that of several minerals containing thoria, which have been made the subject of a separate report*. The mineral supposed to be uraninite or pitchblende, and previously forwarded as such to several persons in England, proves on complete analysis at the Imperial Institute to be a new mineral, which it is proposed to name thorianite. This mineral is one of the richest known in the rare earth thoria, of which it contains more than 75 per cent. uncombined with silica."

* Printed with the main report.

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

RUSSIA—*continued.*

Petroleum Production of Baku.

The following particulars of the petroleum production of Baku during 1904, as compared with the three previous years, are taken from the "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" (Brussels):—

—	Quantity.
	Pouds.
1901...	671,200,000
1902...	686,500,000
1903...	595,800,000
1904...	614,700,000

The output from springs showed a decrease during 1904, whilst the amount obtained by pumping reached the unprecedented figure of 593,200,000 pouds.

Of 147 firms engaged in the petroleum industry at Baku, the eight principal ones obtained 314,000,000 pouds in 1904.

Poud = 36 lbs. avoirdupois.

NETHERLANDS.

Effect of Colliery Strikes in Westphalia on the Coal Trade in the Netherlands.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul at Amsterdam (Mr. W. C. Robinson), as to the effect of the colliery strikes in Westphalia on the coal trade in the Netherlands.

Mr. Robinson states that in spite of the energy developed by the Westphalian Coal Syndicate in its efforts to monopolise the coal trade in Holland, the importation of English coal into that country has largely increased during the past year, partly as a consequence of the low prices quoted for English coal, and partly no doubt by the apprehensions entertained by many of the larger consumers as to the consequences to be feared from the successful establishment of a German monopoly.

The present partial strike in the Westphalian coal districts has to some extent modified the position; the syndicate of Dutch coal dealers in Utrecht, which is practically the representing agent of the Westphalian Trust (see p. 573 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 24th March, 1904), have issued a preliminary circular to their clients in the country reassuring them as to the supply of the quantities already contracted for with the Utrecht Coal Syndicate. The latter have already taken preliminary steps to secure the delivery of large quantities of English coal for their customers at cost price, and should the strike in Westphalia become general, there is no doubt but that a very large demand from Holland will ensue, since the ordinary stocks of coal held in Holland are not large, owing to the ease and promptness with which consumers could be supplied by rail from Westphalia.

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YARNS AND TEXTILES.

INDIA.

Cotton Spinning and Weaving Returns for October.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of the monthly return issued by the Indian Government, showing the quantity of cotton yarn spun, and of cotton woven goods produced in each province of British India, and in the Native States, during October of each of the years 1902, 1903 and 1904, and in the seven months ended October, 1902, 1903 and 1904.

The following is a summarised statement extracted from the return, giving particulars for the seven months ended October, 1902, 1903 and 1904:—

		Seven Months ended October.		
		1902.	1903.	1904.
BRITISH INDIA, BERAR, AND NATIVE STATES.				
Cotton yarn spun	Lbs.	340,305,284	356,320,907	323,309,778
Cotton woven goods produced:—				
Grey goods	"	55,997,824	65,759,622	74,395,103
	= Yards	230,371,985	269,260,716	313,712,233
Figured and coloured goods	Lbs.	11,483,264	14,247,158	14,936,646
Hosiery	"	309,300	452,770	455,249
Miscellaneous goods ...	"	842,135	916,397	1,333,047

AGRICULTURE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Corn Prices.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 11th February, 1905, were as follow:—

Wheat	30*s.* 7*d.*
Barley	25*s.* 2*d.*
Oats	16*s.* 8*d.*

For further particulars see p. 330.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

A statement is published on p. 331, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 11th February, 1905, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1904.

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Agriculture.

CEYLON.

Report on Cotton Samples from Colombo.

Samples of some varieties of cotton grown at the Government Stock Gardens, Colombo, having been submitted for expert opinion in England, the following report on them, dated London, 24th November, was published in the "Agricultural Magazine" (Colombo) for January:—

	per lb.
1. Louisiana—A well-grown, well-cleaned cotton of very useful quality—of good colour and silky staple ...	5½*d.*
2. Louisiana Prolific—Woolly in staple and with a good deal of waste with some stain from over-ripeness ...	5*d.*
3. Upland Georgian—Short and wasty—some not quite ripe	4⅞*d.*
4. Long Stapled—Silky, but not so regular as "Louisiana"	5⅛*d.*
5. Buri—Rather short and wasty, but would class with some good kinds of Bengal ... ... about	5*d.*
6. Goro Hill—Roughish, useful for mixing with wool ...	5⅜*d.*
7. Nankin—Stained—a very unfamiliar cotton, would stand bleaching but rather wasty	4*d.*

"These lots are all well dressed—the 'Louisiana' and 'Goro Hill' look . . . the most desirable to grow."

BRITISH WEST INDIES.

Proceedings at Agricultural Conference, 1905.

The latest issue of the official "West Indian Bulletin" contains an abstract of the proceedings at the fifth West Indian Agricultural Conference, held at Port of Spain, Trinidad, in January. In the course of the Conference some interesting details of the present position and prospects of the various agricultural industries of the West Indies were given.

The "Bulletin" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

RUSSIA.

Tea Industry in the Caucasus.

H.M. Consul at Batoum (Mr. P. Stevens), in a recent report to the Foreign Office on the cultivation of tea in the Caucasus (references to which have appeared from time to time in the "Board of Trade Journal," the latest being in the issue for the 20th October, 1904, p. 125), remarks that the raising of the tea plant along the coast of the Black Sea, near Batoum, is progressing very satisfactorily. The total area of land under tea in the district is approximately 300 dessiatines (810 acres). Out of these 300 dessiatines, 160 (432 acres) are situated on the estates of the Imperial Domains

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Agriculture.

at Chakva, 100 dessiatines (270 acres) on the property of Messrs. K. and S. Popoff, and the remaining plantations are included in the estates of several small proprietors whose lands are distributed along the coast of the Black Sea. (*Foreign Office, Miscellaneous Series*, 628.)

ITALY.

Silk Cocoon Crop of 1904.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office, from H.M. Consul at Milan (Mr. J. H. Towsey), forwarding the following particulars regarding the Italian silk cocoon crop of 1904:—

According to the calculations of the Silk Association of Italy, the total cocoon crop in Italy in 1904 was 42,730,000 kilogs. against 34,167,000 kilogs. in 1903, 41,935,000 kilogs. in 1902 and 40,330,000 kilogs. in 1901. The average for the ten years from 1894 to 1903 was 40,398,200 kilogs., and for the ten years from 1893 to 1902 41,720,900 kilogs. The crops of the different "regions" were characterised as follows:—marked increase in Venetia; normal in Lombardy and Piedmont, which suffered the most from bad weather during 1903; the variations in the other regions were slight. Although the crops in the Marches and Umbria were below those of the preceding year, they were, however, above those of previous years. Judging by the average yields of the cocoons, the Association calculates that the total output of Italian silk was 3,706,000 kilogs. against 2,746,500 kilogs. in 1903 and 3,218,000 in 1902.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Agricultural Statistics of 1904.

The following table showing the production and value of the principal farm crops of the United States in 1904 is based on statistics published in the "Crop Reporter" (the official organ of the United States Department of Agriculture):—

Description of Crop.	Quantity.	Value.
	Bushels.	Dollars.
Corn	2,467,480,934	1,087,461,440
Winter wheat	332,335,346	325,611,373
Spring wheat	219,464,171	184,878,501
Oats	894,595,552	279,900,013
Barley	139,748,958	58,651,807
Rye	27,234,565	18,745,543
Buckwheat	15,008,336	9,330,768
Flax-seed	23,400,534	23,228,758
Rice (rough)...	21,096,038	13,891,523
Potatoes (Irish)	332,830,300	150,673,392
	Tons.	
Hay	60,696,028	529,107,625
	Pounds.	
Tobacco	660,460,739	53,382,959

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MISCELLANEOUS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Cotton Statistics.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 9th February, 1905, was 75,569, and the number imported during the 6 weeks ended the 9th February was 697,769. As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 9th February, 1905, 5,984 bales and for the 6 weeks, 77,183.

For further details see p. 330.

Alien Immigration.

The number of aliens arriving at ports in the United Kingdom during January, 1905, was 12,551, as compared with 7,241 in the corresponding period of last year.

Detailed statistics of alien immigration will be found on p. 332.

Bankruptcy Statistics.

The total number of receiving orders gazetted in England and Wales during the month of January last was 427, as compared with 364 during January, 1904.

For detailed particulars see pp. 333-4.

CHILE.

Drainage Works at Santiago.

With reference to the notice on p. 393 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 1st December, and to previous notices on the subject of drainage works at Santiago, a despatch received at the Foreign Office from the British Vice-Consul at that city (Mr. Allen Kerr) notifies that the contract for these works has been assigned to a French firm.

A translation of the conditions under which the contract was assigned, forwarded by Mr. Kerr, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

Postponement of Conversion of Paper Money.

The "Diario Oficial" of Chile of 29th December publishes a Law postponing until 1st January, 1910, the term fixed by the Laws of 31st July, 1898, and 31st December, 1901, for the conversion of paper money, but if previously to 1st January, 1910, the average rate of exchange shall have been 16⅝*d.* during six months, the President shall order conversion to take place within the following six months, provided there are sufficient funds for that purpose. The issue of legal tender notes is to be increased by 30,000,000 pesos. The Law also provides for the constitution of a conversion fund, and for the transfer to banks in Europe and in the United States of America of existing gold values and those still to be accumulated. This fund is to be added to until it reaches the sum of 80,000,000 pesos.

The "Diario" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

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STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the Week and 6 Weeks ended 9th February, 1905.

—	Week ended 9th Feb., 1905.	6 Weeks ended 9th Feb., 1905.	Week ended 9th Feb., 1905.	6 Weeks ended 9th Feb., 1905.
	Imports. (Bales.)		Exports. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American	70,574	596,006	4,548	56,536
Brazilian	—	5,971	—	328
East Indian	632	9,529	53	2,060
Egyptian	4,085	72,134	1,330	17,977
Miscellaneous	278*	14,129	53	287
Total	75,569	697,769	5,984	77,188

* Including 57 bales British West African and 79 bales British West Indian.

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 11th February, 1905, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

—	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 11th February, 1905 ...	30	7	25	2	16	8
Corresponding week in—						
1898	35	0	27	11	17	8
1899	26	0	26	10	16	11
1900	26	1	24	11	16	8
1901	26	4	25	4	17	7
1902	26	11	27	5	20	3
1903	25	6	23	7	17	1
1904	26	8	22	2	15	9

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

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Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 11th February, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

—		Week ended 11th Feb., 1905.	*Corresponding Week in 1904.*
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number.	9,679	*9,676*
Sheep and lambs	"	6,225	*6,039*
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	189	*654*
Fresh Meat :—			
Beef	Cwts.	54,652	*63,833*
Mutton	"	43,808	*10,590*
Pork	"	15,917	*17,774*
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Cwts.	121,885	*118,139*
Beef	"	8,275	*2,554*
Hams	"	25,282	*24,877*
Pork	"	5,524	*4,551*
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ...	"	9,602	*8,709*
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting ..	"	14,685	*9,657*
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwts.	99,903	*82,737*
Margarine	"	21,187	*15,880*
Cheese	"	30,051	*35,712*
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	*76*
" cream	"	148	*159*
" condensed	"	19,560	*20,570*
" preserved, other kinds...	"	17	*83*
Eggs	Grt. Hundr.	200,992	*219,986*
Poultry	Value £	22,647	*24,085*
Game	"	774	*3,110*
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	Cwts.	4,068	*4,354*
Lard	"	34,641	*53,570*
Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—			
Wheat	Cwts.	1,701,400	*1,417,200*
Wheat meal and flour	"	244,500	*454,400*
Barley	"	348,300	*516,500*
Oats	"	95,500	*142,100*
Peas	"	58,940	*28,630*
Beans	"	88,060	*92,090*
Maize or Indian corn	"	1,077,800	*846,300*
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Cwts.	69,284	*86,856*
Apricots and peaches	"	18	*244*
Bananas	Bunches.	62,118	*24,380*
Cherries	Cwts.	—	—
Currants...	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	—	—
Grapes	"	276	*102*
Lemons	"	21,827	*15,955*
Oranges	"	180,257	*202,522*
Pears	"	814	*401*
Plums	"	40	*122*
Strawberries	"	—	—
Unenumerated	"	2,519	*55*
Hay...	Tons.	1,578	*2,644*
Straw	"	2,899	*2,035*
Moss Litter*	"	1,423	—
Hops	Cwts.	2,789	*7,123*
Locust Beans	"	86,966	*60,566*
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels.	108,060	*248,974*
Potatoes	Cwts.	37,810	*264,843*
Tomatoes	"	13,311	*12,952*
Unenumerated	Value £	8,826	*7,730*
Vegetables, dried	Cwts.	5,372	*3,926*
Preserved by canning...	"	6,722	*5,492*

* Not shown in 1904.

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Alien Immigration—January.

Statement showing the Number of **Alien** Passengers that **Arrived** from the Continent (whether in transit or not) at Ports in the **United Kingdom** during the **Month** ending 31st January, 1905, compared with the corresponding period of the previous Year.

(Compiled from the Alien Lists received by the Customs under Act 6 Will. 4, c. 11, sec. 2.)

Ports of Arrival in United Kingdom.	CONTINENTAL PORTS OF EMBARKATION.															
	Hamburg, Bremen, and Bremerhaven.		Rotterdam, Amsterdam, and Antwerp.		Scandinavian Ports.		Finnish Ports.		Libau.		Dieppe.		Other Continental Ports.		Total.	
	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*
	Month ending 31st January.															
London ...	1,901	*946*	1,362	*611*	103	*110*	...	...	405	*387*	...	...	304	*110*	4,075	*2,163*
Grimsby ...	815	*379*	567	*697*	276	*103*	...	...	...	...	...	*1*	...	...	1,658	*1,180*
Harwich ...	...	...	...	...	426	*275*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	426	*275*
Hull ...	206	*246*	290	*378*	1,128	*420*	2,455	*206*	127	*103*	...	...	9	*24*	4,215	*1,377*
Tyne Ports	22	*25*	15	*61*	473	*408*	...	*42*	...	...	...	...	4	*4*	514	*540*
Leith ...	25	*40*	74	*26*	27	*33*	...	...	...	...	...	...	25	*8*	151	*107*
Newhaven...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	766	*781*	...	...	766	*781*
Other Ports	4	*38*	123	*228*	86	*83*	...	*1*	...	...	...	...	533	*468*	746	*818*
Total ...	2,973	*1,673*	2,431	*2,001*	2,519	*1,432*	2,455	*249*	532	*490*	766	*782*	875	*614*	12,551	*7,241*

NOTES:—(i.) ALIENS IN TRANSIT.—The above totals include Aliens in transit, but the number of such Aliens cannot be stated, as particulars on this point are not required by law to be furnished. At some ports, however, it is the usual practice to state on the Alien Lists the number of Aliens known to be "*en route* to other countries." The total number so described in January, 1905, was 5,472, compared with 2,540 in January, 1904. These figures, however, are incomplete for the reasons stated, and many Aliens not described in the Aliens Lists as "*en route* to other countries," are in fact, known by special inquiry, to have been also in transit.

(ii.) SAILORS.—The number of sailors included with the Aliens not described in the Alien Lists as *en route* to places out of the United Kingdom in the month of January, 1905, was 993, and 1,025 in the same month of 1904.

(iii.) SCOPE OF THE RETURNS.—The ports from which Alien Lists are received are Aberdeen, Belfast, Blyth, Bristol, Cardiff, Dover, Dublin, Folkestone, Glasgow, Goole, Grangemouth, Granton, Greenock, Grimsby, Harwich, Hull, Kirkcaldy, Leith, Liverpool, London, Middlesbrough, Newcastle, Newhaven, Newport, North Shields, South Shields, Southampton, Sunderland, and West Hartlepool. The lists received from Dover, Folkestone, Harwich, Newhaven, and Southampton show only deck passengers, and persons who, after landing, proceed by train as third-class passengers.

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Bankruptcy.—England and Wales.

Number of Receiving Orders Gazetted in the under-mentioned Periods and in the under-mentioned Principal Trades and Occupations.

	January.	
	1905	*1904*
Total gazetted...	No. 427	*No. 364*
Number gazetted in principal trades and occupations :—		
Grocers, &c....	29	*23*
Builders	28	*32*
Publicans and hotel keepers, &c.	27	*15*
Farmers	25	*13*
Bakers	21	*22*
Greengrocers, fruiterers, &c.	12	*11*
Decorators, painters, plumbers, &c.	11	*7*
Drapers, haberdashers, &c.	10	*10*
Agents, commission and general	10	*7*
Tailors, &c.	9	*12*
Boot and shoe manufacturers and dealers ...	6	*6*
Clerks, commercial and general	6	*6*
Fishmongers, poulterers, &c.	6	*6*
Bicycle, &c., manufacturers and dealers ...	6	*4*
Hairdressers...	6	—
Butchers	5	*11*
Cabinet makers and upholsterers	5	*3*
Confectioners	5	*3*
Curriers, tanners, and leather merchants ...	5	*1*
Coal and coke merchants and dealers	4	*6*
General dealers	4	*4*
Corn, flour, seed, hay, and straw merchants and dealers	4	*3*
Auctioneers	4	*2*
Milliners, dressmakers, &c.	4	*2*
Schoolmasters and schoolmistresses	4	*2*
Tobacconists, &c.	4	*2*
China, glass, and earthenware, &c., dealers ...	4	*1*
Travellers, commercial	4	*1*

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Bankruptcy.—England and Wales—*continued.*

	January.	
	1905	*1904*
Number gazetted in principal trades and occupations—*continued:*	No.	*No.*
Wheelwrights	4	*1*
Cab, omnibus and fly proprietors	4	—
Provision merchants, &c.	4	—
Gardeners, florists, &c.	3	*5*
Furniture dealers and makers	3	*4*
Cattle and pig dealers	3	*2*
Clothiers, outfitters, &c.	3	*2*
Doctors of medicine, physicians, &c.	3	*2*
Solicitors	3	*2*
Ironmongers	3	—
Printers, booksellers, and publishers	2	*9*
Architects and surveyors	2	*5*
Carriers, carmen, lightermen, and hauliers ...	2	*5*
Jewellers, watchmakers, silversmiths, &c. ...	2	*4*
Lodging-house keepers	2	*4*
Directors and promoters of public companies ...	2	*3*
Blacksmiths, farriers, &c.	2	*2*
Contractors	2	*2*
Carpenters and joiners	2	*1*
Engineers and founders, &c.	2	*1*
Woollen merchants and manufacturers... ...	2	*1*
Merchants, general	1	*3*
Millers	1	*3*
Fishing smack owners, and masters	1	*2*
Restaurant, coffee and eating-house keepers ...	1	*2*
Saddlers and harness makers	1	*2*
Stationers	1	*2*
Chemists, druggists and chemical manufacturers	1	*1*
Dairymen, cowkeepers, &c.	1	*1*
Timber merchants and wood dealers	1	*1*
Hosiers, glovers, &c.	1	—
Carriage, &c., builders	—	*1*
Cotton spinners and manufacturers	—	*1*
Officers in Army	—	*1*
Stone, marble and monumental masons, &c. ...	—	*1*
Wine and spirit merchants, &c.	—	*1*
Brokers, stock and share	—	—

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GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of January, 1905, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance of 8½*d.* per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1903, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s.* 1*d.* for the first, and 5*s.* for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1899–1903, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade on the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the February issue:—State of the Labour Market in January; Employment in 1904; Trade Disputes in 1904; Wholesale Prices in 1904; Relief of the Unemployed.

FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in Consular Reports of the **Annual and Miscellaneous Series** issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

ANNUAL.

No. 3,323. Trade of South Italy for 1904.

Organised strikes on an unprecedentedly important scale were the leading feature of the year.

Great progress made in the drainage of Naples.

Benefit likely to arise from the British Chamber of Commerce at Genoa.

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Government Publications.

Details of scheme for the industrial improvement of Naples.

Remarks on trade in hemp, oil, wine, chestnuts, truffles, &c.

Statistics illustrative of the rapid growth of Italian foreign trade.

Electric railways projected at Naples.

List of sailings of British S.S. lines from Naples.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

No 627. United States Railways.

Position of chief railway lines.

Statistics of revenue and expenditure.

General legislation and functions of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Details of passenger fares, goods rates, private owners' waggons, brakes, signalling arrangements, safety legislation &c.

Aim of the American Railway Association.

No. 628. Cultivation of Tea in the Caucasus.

The raising of the tea plant along the coast of the Black Sea, near Batoum, is progressing very satisfactorily.

Output of 38,700 lbs. in 1903, as compared with 36,900 lbs. in 1902.

Difficulties owing to scarcity of labour.

Table showing expenses of cultivation.

OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

Agricultural Statistics, Ireland, 1904. *Extent in Statute Acres and Produce of the Crops for the Year* 1904. [*Cd.* 2,339.] *Price* 3½*d.*

The following table shows the acreage and produce of the principal crops in Ireland in 1904, as compared with the preceding year:—

—	Acreage.		Produce.	
	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.
	Statute acres.	Statute acres.	Cwts.	Cwts.
Wheat	37,596	30,925	629,985	556,894
Oats	1,097,538	1,078,772	16,804,601	17,183,400
Barley	158,712	158,043	2,603,953	2,347,531
Rye	10,050	9,414	134,973	122,480
			Tons.	Tons.
Potatoes	620,393	618,540	2,363,236	2,642,018
Turnips	287,548	285,831	3,595,745	4,997,245
Flax	44,685	44,293	8,628	9,341

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Government Publications.

LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

THE following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since 1st January, 1905, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

No.	Place.	Price	No.	Place.	Price
	EUROPE—			**AFRICA—**	
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COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT, BOARD OF TRADE.

January, 1905.

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

To Merchants, Manufacturers, and Shippers whose Advertisements appear in the "Board of Trade Journal."

(*Where no folio is given, Advertisement does not appear in this issue.*)

PAGE

Absorbent Blottings—
Tullis, R., & Co., Markinch, Fife ... ...

Adamantine Clinker (Regd.)—
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...

Admiralty Charts—
Potter, J. D., 145, Minories .. 8

Agents (Colonial & Foreign)—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Agricultural Seeds—
Cooper, Taber & Co., 90 & 92, Southwark Street, S.E. ...
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ...

Air Compressors—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

Ale, Beer, and Stout Merchants—
Daukes & Co., Strand, London

Alkali Manufacturers—
Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire ... ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Alloys—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

PAGE

Ammonia, Anhydrous, & Liquid—
Brotherton & Co., Leeds (Carbonate of Ammonia, Muriate of Ammonia, &c.)

Ammonia (Anhydrous), Valves for—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Ammunition Manufacturers—
King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham 10
Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow 1

Antifouling Composition for Ships—
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Anti-friction Metal—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Antimony Paint—
Parker & Lester, London, S.E.

Antiquities in Sundials—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Artists' Colours—
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

PAGE

Athletic Goods Manufacturers—
Quaife Bros. & Lilley, 313, Broad Street, Birmingham

Bags and Sacks—
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool 14

Baths, Porcelain, Enamelled (Cast Iron)—
Clark, T. & C., & Co., Wolverhampton ... ...

Bedding—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., South Place, Finsbury, E.C. ... 13

Bedsteads (Iron and Brass)—
Bott, J. T., Ltd., Glover Street, Birmingham... ...
Evered & Co., London and Birmingham ... ...
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Bordesley, Birmingham, and South Place, Finsbury, E.C. 13
Hoyland, John, Ltd., Birmingham and London ...

Bellows—
Brison, E., & Co., Bristol ...

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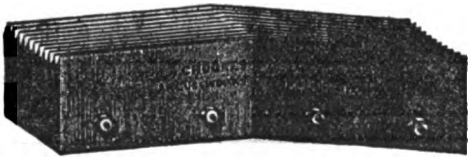

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Billiard Table Manufacturers—
Cox & Yeman, London, S.W.
Edwards, George, London, N.E. C

Binoxide of Barium—
Bessler, Waechter & Co., 18 & 19, Fenchurch Street, E.C.
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle ... ...

Bird Seeds and Foods—
Hyde, R., & Co., London, S.E.

Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, J., & Son, 58, City Road, E.C.... ... ...

Biscuit Manufacturers—
Hubbard, Walter, Partick, Glasgow. Export Agent—J. S. Morrison, Son & Jones, Peninsular Buildings, London, E.C. ... ...

Blankets—Cotton—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester.

Bleaching Powder—
Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Blue Manufacturers—
Edge, Wm., & Sons, Ltd., Bolton... ... ...

PAGE

Boiler Incrustation (Prevention and Removal of)—
The Boilerine Manufacturing Co., Old Kent Road, S.E... 4
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Boiler Makers—
Butterley Co. (The), Ltd., Derby 21
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Garrett, R., & Son, Ltd., Leiston, R.S.O. ... ...
Hartley & Sugden, Ltd., Halifax ... ...
Marriott & Graham, Govan, N.B. ... ...

Boiler Makers and Heating Engineers—
Riley, J. Ashton, Ltd., Manchester Road, Huddersfield

Boiler Tubes—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury 15

Bolts, Nuts and Screws—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 6
Periam, Herb. W., Birmingham (Screws, Rivets, Washers, Nails (Roofing))

Bone Mill Manufacturers—
Carter, J. Harrison; Dunstable

PAGE

Boots and Shoes—
Lewis, C. & E., Northampton

Bottled Fruits—
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...

Brass Finishers—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury 15

Brassfounders—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Brass Plate Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Brass Scrap Merchants—
Adams, John, & Sons, Newcastle-on-Tyne ... ...

Bread & Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

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Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Enamelled and Glazed Bricks, Glazed Wall Tiles)
Pearson, E.J. & J., Stourbridge
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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Bronze Manufacturers— PAGE
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Brush Manufacturers—
Brison, E., & Co., Bristol ...
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...

Bulbs—
Cooper, Taber & Co., Ltd., London ... ...

Bunting Manufacturers—
Riley, E., & Co., Providence Street Mills, Leeds ... ...

Button Manufacturers—
Smith & Wright, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

Cables and Wires—
Connolly Bros., Ltd., Blackley, Manchester ... ...
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Telegraph Manufact'ng Co., Ltd., The, Helsby, Warrington ... ...

Candle Manufacturers— PAGE
Ogston & Tennant, Ltd., Aberdeen ... ...
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Carbolic Acid—
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Carbonic Acid Gas Valves—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Carboys—
Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks ... ...

Carpets and Rugs—
Barton, J. E., & Sons, Kidderminster 2

Carriage Builders—
Forder & Co., Ltd., Warrant Holders to H.M. the King, Upper St. Martin's Lane, W.C.; Works, Wolverhampton 8

Cartridge Manufacturers—
Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow 1

Cement Manufacturers—
Peters Bros., London, S.W.... 4
West Kent Portland Cement Co., Burham, nr. Rochester 28

Charm Manufacturers— PAGE
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Chemical Manufacturers—
Anglo - Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ... ...
Bessler, Waechter & Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Blythe, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs ... ...
Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., Northwich, Cheshire ...
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith ... ...
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle ... ...
Miller, Jas., Son & Co., Glasgow ... ...
The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

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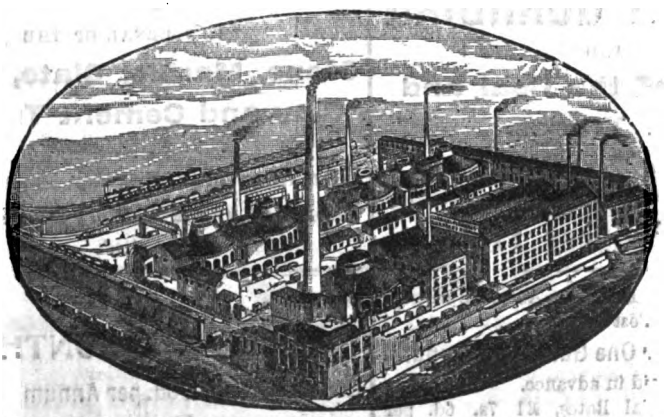

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Chemical Manure Manufacturers—*continued*—
Richards, G. H., 234, Borough High Street, S.E. ... ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Chemical & Physical Apparatus—
Reynolds & Branson, Ltd., Leeds ... ...

Chemists (Manufacturing)—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
Scott & Bowne, Ltd., London, E.C. (Scott's Emulsion) ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

Chilled Shot—
The Abbey Improved Chilled Shot Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne 2

Chimney Cowl Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester ...

Chimney Shaft, &c., Builder and Repairer—
Lewis, Joseph, 5 and 6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. ... ...

China Clay—
Lovering, John, & Co., St. Austell ... ...

PAGE

China Door Furniture Mnfrs.—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C... C

China Electrical Fittings—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C... C

China Manufacturers—
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...
Lovering, John, & Co., St. Austell, Cornwall ... ...

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Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....
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Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 and 34, Cockspur Street, London... ...
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...

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Robertson & Orchar, Dundee C

Clothing (Fustian)—
Brown, R. B., & Sons, Hebden Bridge... ... ...

Clothing Manufacturers (Fustian)—
Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge

Clothing and Woollen Mnfrs.—
Grainger & Smith, Dudley ...

PAGE

Cloths for Machinery—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury

Clutch Manufacturers—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

Coal and Coke—
Cannock Chase Colliery Co., Ltd., Birmingham ... ...
Cory Bros., & Co., Ltd., Cardiff 3
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. ... 25
Wharncliffe Woodmoor Colliery Co., Ltd., Barnsley...
Wigan Coal and Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan ... ...

Coal Depot Proprietors—
Cory Bros. & Co., Cardiff ... 3
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. ... 25

Coal Screening Plant—
Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield ... ...

Coatings—Cotton—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Colliery Engines—
Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield ... ...

Colliery Owners—
Cannock Chase Colliery Co., The, Ltd., Birmingham ...
Cory Bros. & Co., Cardiff ... 3
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. ... 25
Wharncliffe Woodmoor Colliery Co., Ltd., Barnsley...

Colour Manufacturers—
Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen...
Levinstein, Ltd., Manchester
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C.
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Composition for Bottoms of Ships—
Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen...
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...

Compressed Gases (Fittings for)—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Concertinas (English)—
Lachenal & Co., Little James Street, W.C. ... ...

Confectioners—
Craven, M. A., & Son, Ebor Confectionery Works, York

Confectioners' Colours, Essences, &c.—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours and Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., Hackney Wick, N.E. ... ...
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

Confectioners (Manufacturing, Wholesale and Export)—
Craven, M. A., & Son, Ebor Confectionery Works, York

PAGE

Coping and Paving Bricks—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Copper Tape, Wire Rope, &c.—
Connolly Bros., Ltd., Blackley, Manchester ... ...
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Corks—
Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks ... ...

Cotton Bagging—
Judge, T. & W., London, S.E.

Cotton Goods—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow ... ...
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury
Spinner, E., & Co., Manchester ... ...

Cotton Waste—
Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester... ... C

Cranes, Crab-Winches—
Russell, George, & Co., Motherwell, N.B. ... ...

Creosote—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Damp Wall Compositions—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E.

Decklights and Porthole Glasses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Birmingham 3

Decorated Tin Plates—
The Tinplate Decorating Co., Ltd., Neath 20

Decorative Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Delta Metal Manufacturers—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Disinfectants—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... .

PAGE

Disintegrators—
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable... ... ...
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ... ...

Distillers—
Crawford, Daniel, & Son, Ltd., Glasgow ... ...
Dalluaine - Talisker Distilleries, Ltd., Carron, Strathspey ... ...
Distillers Co., Ltd., The, Edinburgh ... ...

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Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Co., Wyre Dock, Fleetwood ... ...

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United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...
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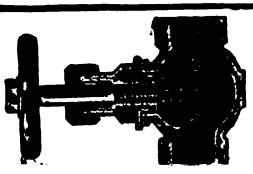

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and Contractors— PAGE
continued—
Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Lewis, Joseph, 5-6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. ... ...

Electric Bells—
Wright, Archibald J., Ltd., 318, Upper St., London, N.

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Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C.... C

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Wright, Archibald J., Ltd., 318, Upper St., London, N.

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Acme Lathe Co., Ltd., The, Ardwick, Manchester ...

Emery and Corundum Wheel Manufacturers—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, near Manchester ... 16

Emery and Glass Cloth—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...

Emery and Glass Paper—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...

Emery Grindg. Machine Mkrs.—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester 16

Emery Manufacturers—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (Emery Wheel and Corundum Wheel Manufacturers) ... 16

Enamel Colours—
Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen...

Enamelled Fire Clay Sinks— PAGE
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

Encaustic Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Sons, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs... ...

Engine Cleaning Waste—
Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester... ... C

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Northern Engineering Co., Halifax ... ...

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Engineers' Ironfounders—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee (Machine Moulded Wheels) C
Whittingham & Porter, Hull
Wigan Coal and Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan ... ...
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorkhouse ... ...

Engineers' Oil Cans—
Kaye, Joseph, & Sons, Ltd., Leeds ... ...

Engineers' Stores—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Engineers' Tool Makers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield 9
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury 15

Engineers and Millwrights—
General—
Aveling & Porter, Rochester (Locomotives, Road Rollers, &c.) ... ...
Baird, W., & Co., Glasgow (Pig Iron, Coal; Coke, &c.) ... C
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...
Burrell, C., & Sons, Ltd., Thetford (Locomotives, Steam Rollers, Traction Engines) ... ...
Chidlaw, Robert, Manchester
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Garrett, R., & Sons, Leiston, Suffolk ... ...

Engineers and Millwrights— PAGE
General—continued—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N.
Howorth, J., & Co., Farnworth, Manchester ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (various forms of Engineers' Grinding and Polishing Machinery) 16
Marriott & Graham, Govan, Glasgow (Boiler Makers)...
Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield ... ...
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London C
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee C
Russell, G., & Co., Motherwell, N.B. ... ...
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...
Spencer, Moulton & Co., Ltd., Bradford-on-Avon, Wilts... 10
Whiteley, William, & Sons, Lockwood, Huddersfield...
Whittingham & Porter, Hull
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorkshire ... ...

Engine Packings—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Engine-cleaning Waste—
Jones, W. C., Ltd., Manchester C

Engine Roll Bars—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Sheffield 9

Essence Manufacturers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours & Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., The, London, N.E.
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. C
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Essences, &c.—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

Essential Oils—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

Exhibition Agents—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn... 2

Exhibition Fitters—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Fancy Goods, Dealers in, Importers, Warehousemen and Manufacturers—
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...

Fancywood Merchants—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool ... ...

Fan Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester ...

Feeding Stuffs (for Cattle & Sheep)—
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B. ... ...

Felts (Paper Makers' Machine)—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury

Fencing (Steel and Iron)—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich 17

File Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield 9

Filter Manufacturers—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London C

Fire Bricks—
Calder Fireclay Co., The, Coatbridge... ... ...
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

Fire Bricks—*continued*— PAGE
King Bros., Stourbridge ...
Pearson, E. J. & J., Stourbridge
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...

Fire Clay—
King Bros., Stourbridge ...
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...

Fire Clay Goods—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Sinks) ... ...

Flag and Banner Manufacturers—
Piggott Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Flannel Manufacturers—
Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale ... ...
Spinner & Co., Manchester...

Flour Mill Engineers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Flour Millers—
Appleby, Josh., & Sons, Ltd., Liverpool ... ...
Vernon, W., & Sons, Liverpool

Forks—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Forwarding Agents—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., 88, Lime Street, E.C. ... ...

French Chalk—
Anglo-Italian Talc and Plumbago Mines Co., Ltd., 26, Old Hall Street, Liverpool

Fruit Essence Manufacturers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours & Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., London, N.E. ...
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

Furniture Trade Printers—
Smiley & Shaw, London, E.C.

Fustian Clothing Manufacturers—
Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge

Fustian (Piece Goods)— PAGE
Moss Bros. (Hebden Bridge), Ltd. ... ...

Galvanized Iron Manufacturers—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Galvanized Wire Netting—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich 17

Garden Adornments—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Garden Furniture—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich 17

Garden Requisite Manufacturer—
Richards, G. H., 234, Borough High Street, S.E. ... ...

Gas Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Manchester ... ...

Gas Furnaces—
Cannington, Shaw & Co., St. Helens, Lancashire ... ...

Gas Governors—
Shaw, Joseph, Huddersfield.. 18

Gas-Tight Motors—
Hodson Wright & Wood, Halifax ... ...

Gates, Railings, and Hurdles—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich 17

Gauge Glasses—
Butterworth Bros., Newton Heath, Manchester ... ...
Tomey & Sons, Perth ... ...
Tomey, Joseph, & Sons, Messrs., Ltd., Manor Glass Works, Aston, Birmingham

Gauge Glass Protectors—
Tomey, Joseph, & Sons, Messrs., Ltd., Manor Glass Works, Aston, Birmingham

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

General Export Merchants—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E....

Gin Distillers—
Distillers Co., Ltd., The, Edinburgh... ... ...
Hills & Underwood, London, E.C. ... ...

Girders (Iron and Steel)—
Scott, Walter, Ltd., Leeds ...

Glass and Emery Paper—
London Emery Works Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Glass Bottles—
Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks ... ...
Cannington, Shaw & Co., Ltd., St. Helens ... ...

Glass Case Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Glass Manufacturers—
Robinson, J. B., 31, Moor Lane, E.C. ... ...
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham 3

Glass Works—
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham 3

Glazed Bricks—
Woolliscroft, G., & Sons, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Glazed Fire Clay Sinks—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

Glaziers' Diamonds—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Glues—
The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan ...

Glycerine—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Golf Balls—
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ("Melfort" and "Henley")... ... ...

PAGE

Grain Cleaning Machinery—
Boby, Robt., Ltd., Bury St. Edmunds ... ...

Granite Merchants—
Freeman, John, Sons & Co., Ltd., Penryn, Cornwall (Engineering and Architectural) 22

Grease Manufacturers—
Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Grinding Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable ... ...

Grinding & Polishing Machry.—
London Emery Works Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (Makers of various forms of)... ... 16

Guano Manufacturers—
Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ... ...

Gummed Paper—
Jones, S., & Co., 56, Carter Lane, St. Paul's, E.C. ...

Hammers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield 9

Hams and Bacon—
Nickson, G. & J., & Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Hand Looms—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ld., Bury

Hardwood Merchants—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool ... ...

Hat Manufacturers—
Christy & Co., London, E.C.

Heating & Ventilating Engineers—
Hartley & Sugden, Halifax (Boilers) ... ...
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Hinge and Lock Manufacturers—
Crompton, Thomas, Ashton, near Wigan ... ...

PAGE

Hoes—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ... ...
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Holloware—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Hop Commissioners—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ...

Hose—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Hose-Pipe Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Hosiery—
Walker, R., & Sons, Rutland Street, Leicester ... ...

Hosiery & Finishing Machnry.—
Berridge, I. L., & Co., Leicester (Sole Proprietors Griswold Knitters) ... ...

Hosiery Yarns—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford ... ...

Humidifier Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester ...

Hydraulic Engineers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Hydraulic Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ... ...

Hydraulic Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Ice Machine Manufacturers—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London C

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

India-rubber Goods—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C...

India-rubber Manufacturers—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C..
Harris, Joseph, Altrincham (Advertising Balloons, Squeakers, and Rubber Surgical Appliances) ...
India-Rubber, Gutta-Percha & Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Injectors—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Ink Manufacturers—
Blackwell & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Inkstands—
Darke, E., 14a, Gt. Marlborough Street, W. ... ...

Insecticides (Horticultural)—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. ... ...

Insulators—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C. .. C

Iron Buildings—
Ash, J., & Son, Rea Street, South Birmingham ... ...
Humphreys, Ltd., Knightsbridge, London, S.W. ...

Iron Plate Workers—
Ash, J., & Son, Rea Street, South Birmingham ... ...

Iron Safes—
Ratner Safe Co., Ltd., Hancock Road, Bow, E. 2

Ironfounders—
Roberts, J. & S., Ltd., West Bromwich 24
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee C
Saxby & Farmer, Canterbury Road, London, N.W. ...
Whittingham & Porter, Hull
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

PAGE

Ironmasters—
Baird, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Gartsherrie, N.B. C
Parkgate Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham 1
Whiteley & Sons, Ltd., Huddersfield ... ...

Ironstone Adamant Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs. ... ...

Jute Weaving Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Knitting Machine Builders—
Stibbe, G., & Co., Leicester...
Harrison Patent Knitting Machine Co., Ltd., 227, Upper Brook Street, Manchester ... ...

Lacquer Manufacturers—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E...
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E. ... ...
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Lamp Manufacturers—
Bladon, T. E., 99 and 100, Northwood Street, Birmingham; London address, 4, Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, E.C. ... ...

Lathes (Turning, Polishing, &c.)—
Fabricotti, B., London, S.W..
Northern Engineering Co., Ltd., King's Cross, near Halifax ... ...

Launch Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Patricroft, Manchester ...

Launch Oil Engines—
The Seal Motor Co., Hammersmith, London 2

Lead Glazing—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N. ... ...

Lead Manufacturers—
Hall, W., Winstanley Road, Battersea, S.W.... ... ...

Leather Belting (Link)—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

PAGE

Leather Reviver—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E.

Leggings and Gaiters—
Wallace, Bailey & Wilkins, Bermondsey, London, S.E.

Lens Manufacturers for Ships and Railway Lamps—
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham 3

Letter Cutters—
Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield ... 2

Lifts—
Clark, Bunnett, & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

Lightning Conductor Manufacturer and Erector—
Lewis, Joseph, 5 & 6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. ... ...

Lime Juice—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. C

Liquorice Wafers—
Hillabys', Ltd., Pontefract...

Lithographic Varnish—
Coates Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Locomotive Engine Builders—
Aveling & Porter, Ltd., Rochester ... ...
Burrell, C., & Sons, Ltd., Thetford ... ...
Garrett, R., & Sons, Leiston, Suffolk ... ...

Looking Glass Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2
Robinson, J. B., 81, Moor Lane, E.C.... ... ...

Loom Makers—
Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee

Lubricants—
Bremner, J. A., & Co., Manchester ... ...
Fleming, A. B., & Co., Edinburgh ... ...
Nobel Bros., Petersburg ...

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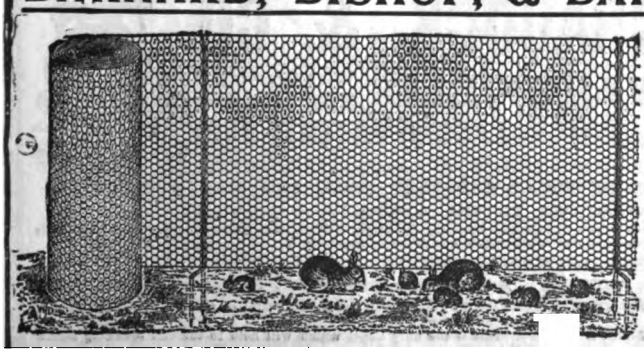

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Lubricants—*continued*— PAGE
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Lubricating Oils—
Light, Jas., & Son, Ltd., 9, Rumford Street, Liverpool
Nobel Bros., Petersburg ...
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Lubricators—
Nobel Bros., Petersburg ...

Machine Felts—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury

Machine Knives, Cutters & Blades—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... 9

Machine Makers—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee C

Machine Screws, Bolts, Nuts, &c.—
Acme Lathe Co., Ltd., The, Ardwick, Manchester ...

Magnesia—
Henry, T. & W., East Street, St. Peters, Manchester ...

Manchester Warehousemen—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E. ...

Manures (Chemical)—
Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ... ...
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith ... ...
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle ... ...
Thomson, Wm., & Sons, Ltd., Clovenfords by Galashiels (for Vines & Plants) ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Marble and Granite Merchant and Importer—
Fabbricotti, B., Pimlico, London, S.W. ... ...

Marble Manufacturers of all Descriptions—
Fabbricotti, B., Pimlico, London, S.W. ... ...

Mattresses (Woven Wire)— PAGE
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Hay Mill, Birmingham ... ...
Lane, George, & Sons, Brueton Street, Birmingham ...

Medical Plasters—
De St. Dalmas, A., & Co., Leicester ... ...

Metal Merchants and Manfrs.—
Billington & Newton, Longport, Staffs. ... ...
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Dugard Bros., Birmingham... 15
King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham 10

Metal Polish—
Baumgartner, J. F., & Co., London, W. ... ...

Military and Naval Ornaments—
Narborough, F., 40, 42, 44, Lombard Street, Birmingham ... ...
Wilkins, T. B., 52, Clement Street, Birmingham... ...

Mine Owners—
Wigan Coal & Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan (Producers of Best House, Gas and Steam Coals, and Wigan Cannel)

Mineral Waters—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. C

Mining Lamps (all classes)—
Cooke, Joseph, & Son (Belmont Passage), 203, Lawley Street, Birmingham ... ...

Mortar and Pestle Manfrs.—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C.... C

Mortice Furniture—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C.... C

Mosaic and Tiles Decoration—
Geary, Walker & Co., 11, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C. ... ...
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs. ... ...

Motors (Gas Tight)—
Hodgson, Wright & Wood, Halifax ... ...

Mushroom Ketchup— PAGE
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...

Musical Instrument Manfrs.—
Lachenal & Co., London, W.C.

Mustard Seed—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ...

Nails—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 6

Name Plate Makers—
Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield ... 2

Newspapers—
Colliery Guardian, 49, Essex Street, Strand, W.C. ... 12

Night Lights—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Oar Manufacturers—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool ... ...

Office Fittings—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Oilcake (Linseed and Cotton)—
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B. ... ...

Oil Cans—
Bladon, T. E., 99 & 100, Northwood Street, Birmingham; London address, 4, Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, E.C. ... ...
Kaye, Joseph, & Sons, Ltd., Leeds ... ...

Oil Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Manchester ... ...
The Seal Motor Co., Hammersmith, London ... ...

Oil Mill Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

Oil Refiners, Distillers, & Mfrs.—
Bremner, Jno. A., & Co., Manchester ... ...
Fleming, A. B., & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh... ... ...
Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Oil Refiners, Distillers, and Manufacturers—*continued*—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C. ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Opal Tiling—
The Permanent Decorative Glass Co., Ltd., Lancaster..

Ore Crushing Machines—
Baxter, W. H., Leeds ... ...

Ovens—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Oxfords Manufacturers—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow ... ...

Oxides—
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Oxygen. Cylinder Valves for—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Paint Manufacturers—
Hoyle, Robson, Barnett & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne...
Parker & Lester, London, S.E. (Antimony Paint) ...
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Robinson, E., & Co., Ltd., City Works, Sheffield ...
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Paper Bag Makers (Home and Export)—
Higham Bros., Cone Works, Farnworth, near Bolton, Lancs.... ... ...

Paper Bags—
Smith, Stone & Knight, Ltd., Union Paper Mills, Birmingham ... ...

PAGE

Paper Makers—
Smith & McLaurin, Messrs., Ltd., Milliken Park, Scotland (Coated and Gummed Papers) ... ...
Tullis, R., & Co., Markinch, Fife ... ...

Paper Makers and Stationers (Wholesale and Export)—
Annandale, John, & Sons, Ltd., Shotley Grove, Durham ... ...
Dickinson, J., & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Ford, T. B., Loudwater, High Wycombe (Blottings)
Hodgkinson, W. S., & Co., Wells, Somerset ... ...
Hollingsworth & Co., Maidstone ... ...
Olive & Partington, Manchester ... ...

Paper Makers' Steel and Bronze Tools—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... 9

Paper Makers' Tools—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Sheffield 9

Parquet Flooring—
Geary, Walker & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Patent Fuel Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

Pavement Light Lenses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Birmingham 8

Paving Bricks—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Pen Manufacturers—
Gillott, J., & Sons, Birmingham ... ...

Perfumers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E....

PAGE

Perfumery Materials—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E....
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

Phosphor Bronze—
Billington & Newton, Longport, Staffs. ... ...

Photographic Process—
Platinotype Co., The, London, W.C. ... ...

Pianos, Organs, and Small Instruments—
Riley's on Constitution Hill, Birmingham ... ...

Pickles—
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...

Picks—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Pins (Toilet)—
Edridge, Merrett & Co., Ltd., Legge Street, Birmingham

Pistons—
Buckley, W., & Co., Millsands, Sheffield ... ...

Plate and Bar Manufacturers—
Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby... 21

Plate Glass Manufacturers—
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C.

Plumbago—
Anglo-Italian Talc and Plumbago Mines Co., Ltd., 26, Old Hall Street, Liverpool

Poles, Telegraph—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C... C

Porcelain Paint—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. ... ...

Portable Buildings—
Humphreys, Ltd., Knightsbridge, London, S.W. ...

Portable Iron and Wood Buildings—
Iles, Robert, Ltd., Walham Green, London, S.W. ...

THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Portland Cement—
Peters Bros., 34, Victoria Street, S.W. 4
West Kent Portland Cement Co., Burham, Rochester, Kent 23

Preservative for Stone, &c.—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. ... ...

Printers, Publishers, and Engravers—
Colliery Guardian Co., Ltd., 49, Essex Street, Strand, W.C. 12
Sheppard & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Smily & Shaw, London, E.C.

Printing Ink Manufacturers—
Blackwell & Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Coates Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Proprietary Articles, Specialities, &c.—
Baumgartner, J. F., & Co., London, W. ("La Brillantine" Metallic Powder)
Dalmas, A. de St., & Co., Leicester (Medical Plaisters)
Henry's Calcined Magnesia (T. & W. Henry), Manchester
Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Co., Lincoln (Clarke's Blood Mixture)..
Scott & Bowne, Ltd., London E.C. (Scott's Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil)... ...

Provision Merchants (Wholesale and Export)—
Griffiths, McAlister & Co., Liverpool ... ...
Gunson, Geo., Sons & Co. Liverpool ... ...
MacSimon's Stores, Ltd., Canning Place, Liverpool..
Nickson, G. & J., & Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Provisions (Importers and Exporters)—
Gunson, Geo., Sons & Co., 3, Atherton Street, Liverpool

PAGE

Pulley Blocks—
Godfrey, J. T., Loughborough

Pulleys—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

Pumping Engines—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London C
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Pumps—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London C
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Quarry Owners—
Freeman, J., Son & Co., London, W. ... ...
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Quilts, Covers, Toiletings, &c.—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester

Quiltings and Piques—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester

Railway Appliances—
Saxby & Farmer, Ltd., Canterbury Road, London, N.W. (Railway Signals, &c.) ... ...

Railway Brass Foundry—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Heath Mill Lane, Birmingham ... ...

Railway Lamp Lenses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham 3

Railway Signals—
Saxby & Farmer, Ltd., London, N.W. ... ...

Rain Water Separator—
Rogers, H. J., Shottermill, Haslemere ... ...

Reducing Valves for Compressed Gases—
Scotch & Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

PAGE

Refrigerators—
Haslam Foundry and Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Derby ... ...
Pulsometer Engineering Co., The, Reading and London C

Retorts—
Stevens, J., & Son, Birmingham 3

Rings and Springs—
Buckley, Wm., & Co., Millsands, Sheffield... ... ...

Rivet, Bolt, and Nut Manfrs.—
Gadd, Thos., Rowley Regis, Dudley ... ...
Guest, Keen, & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham ... ... (
Periam, H. W., Birmingham
Priest, B., & Sons, Oldhills, Staffs ... ...

Roof Glazing—
Grover & Co., Ltd London, N.

Roofing (Patent)—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N.

Roofing Tile Machinery—
Woolliscroft. G., & Son, Ltd, Hanley, Staffs. ... ...

Roofing Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Rope Manufacturers—
Piggott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Rubber Tyres—
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N. ... ...

Sacks and Bags—
Judge, T. & W., London, E.C. (Cotton) ... ...
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool 14

Saddlery, Harness, &c., Mfrs.—
Rawle & Son, 231 and 232, Blackfriars Road, London, S.E. ... ...

Safe Manufacturers—
Hobbs, Hart, & Co., Ltd., London, N. 8
Ratner & Co., 51, Moorgate Street, E.C. 2

PATENTEES AND MANUFACTURERS OF
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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Safety Fuse Manufacturers— PAGE
Nobel's Explosive Co., Ltd., Glasgow 1

Salt—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Salvage and Dismantling Contractors—
Adams, John, & Sons, Broad Chare, Newcastle-on-Tyne

Sanitary Appliances—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Drain Pipes and Traps, Sanitary Earthenware, W.C. Basins, Urinals, and Washdown Closets, Enamelled Sinks) ... ...

Sanitary Paints—
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...

Sanitary Potters—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

Sauce Manufacturers—
Cocks, Chas., & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...

Saw Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield 9

Scrap Iron—
Adams, John, & Sons, Broad Chare, Newcastle-on-Tyne 2

Screw Hooks, Screw Eyes—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 6

Screwing Tackle—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury 15

Screws and Spindles—
Dodd, Joseph, & Co.. Chester Works, Aston, Birmingham

Screws, Washers, Nails, &c.—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 6
Periam, H. W., Birmingham

Seals—
Pryor, E. & Son, Sheffield ... 2

Seed Merchants—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ...

Seeds— PAGE
Cooper, Taber & Co., Ltd., London ... ...

Serge—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford... ... ...
Hamlyn Bros.. Ltd., Buckfastleigh, Devon ... ...
Spinner & Co., Manchester...

Sewing Machines—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee C

Shaftings, Pulleys, Plummer Blocks, &c.—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

Sheep Dip (both Arsenical and Nicotine)—
Richards, G. H., 234, Borough High Street. S.E. ... ...

Sheep Deep (Nicotine)—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E....

Sheep Dip Manufacturers—
Cooper, Wm., & Nephews, Berkhamsted, Makers of the Original Powder Dip...

Sheep Shearing Machines—
Cooper. Wm., & Nephews, 142, Illinois Street, Chicago, and Berkhamsted, England

Sheers—
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...

Shipbuilders—
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...

Shipping Agents—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Ship Stores and Chandlery—
MacSymon's Stores, Ltd., Canning Place, Liverpool..

Ships' Berths—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Bordesley, Birmingham... ...

Ships' Lamp Lenses— PAGE
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham 3

Shirtings—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow ... ...

Shoe Rivets—
Edridge, Merrett & Co., Ltd., Legge Street, Birmingham

Shop Fittings—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2
Harris & Sheldon, Ltd., Stafford Street, Birmingham...

Shot (Hard and Soft)—
The Abbey Improved Chilled Shot Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne 2

Shovels—
Thornton, George, & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Shuttle Block Manufacturers—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool ... ...

Silk Weaving Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Sinks—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock, N.B.... ... ...

Slate Merchants and Manufrs.—
Davies Bros., Portmadoc, N. Wales ... ...
Williams, Richard, & Co., Portmadoc ... ...

Slipper Manufacturers—
Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge

Slipway Machinery—
Day, Summers, & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...

Soap Manufacturers—
Ogston & Tennant, Ltd., Aberdeen ... ...
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...
Tennant, Charles, & Co., Glasgow ... ...

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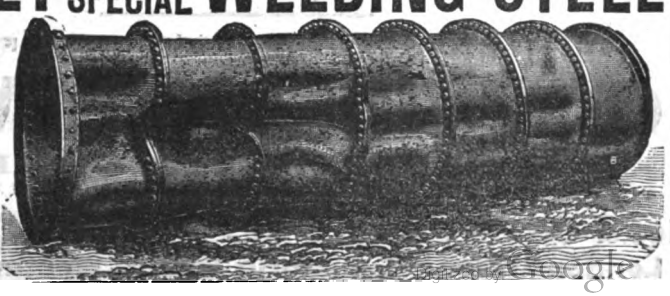

THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Soap Manufacturers—*contd.* PAGE
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Hazlehurst Soap Works, Runcorn
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester (Hard and Soft Soaps)... ... ...

Soap Powders—
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Soap Stone—
Anglo-Italian Talc and Plumbago Mines Co., Ltd., 26, Old Hall Street, Liverpool

Soda—
Brunner, Mond, & Co., Northwich, Cheshire ... ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Spades—
Thornton, George, & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Sponge Cloths, &c.—
Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester... ... C

Stamp and Punch Makers—
Pryor, Edward, & Son, Sheffield 2

Stationers (Manufacturing and Export)—
Dickinson, John, & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Stay Busk Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... 9

Steam Boilers—
Hartley & Sugden, Halifax...

Steam Gauge—
Hodson, Wright & Wood, Halifax ... ...

Steam Pulsating Pumps—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London C

Steam Saw Mills—
Fabbricotti, B., London, S.W.

Steam Traps—
Whiteley, W., & Sons, Ltd., Lockwood, Huddersfield ...

Steam Valves— PAGE
Shaw, J., Albert Works, Huddersfield 13

Steel Castings, Steel and Iron Forgings, &c.—
Baird, W., & Co., Glasgow ... C
Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby 21
Fairley, J., & Sons, Birmingham ... ...
Lanarkshire Steel Co., The, Motherwell, N.B. 4
Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow C

Steel and Iron Shafting, &c.—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee C
Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Steel Manufacturers—
Brown, Bayley's Steel Works, Ltd., Sheffield ... ...
Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby 21
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield 9
Fairley, J., & Sons, Birmingham ... ...
Lanarkshire Steel Co., The, Motherwell, N.B. 4
Parkgate Iron and Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham 1
Power, F. A., & Sons, Saltley, Birmingham ... ...
Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow C

Steel Pen Makers—
Gillott, J., & Sons, London and Birmingham... ... ...

Steel Ropes—
Cradock, G., & Co., Wakefield 18

Steel Tubes—
Russell, J., & Sons, Ltd., Wednesbury 15

Stencil Plates—
Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield ... 2

Stone Breakers—
Baxter, W. H., Ltd., Leeds...

Stone, Solution for Preservation of—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E.

Stoves—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich 17

Strong Rooms— PAGE
Hobbs, Hart & Co., Ltd., London, N.... 8

Sugar Refiners—
Tate, Henry, & Sons, Ltd., London and Liverpool ...

Sulphate of Copper—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Sulphate of Soda Manufacturers—
Blythe, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs. ... ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Sulphuric Acid Manufacturers—
Blythe, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs. ... ...
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith ... ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Sulphuric Acid Manufacturers' Retorts—
Stevens, J., & Sons, Birmingham 8

Surgical India Rubber Mfrs.—
Harburg and Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C.

Surgical Instrument Mfctr.—
Harris, Joseph, Altrincham (Rubber Goods) ... ...

Syphons and Seltzogenes—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. C

Tailors' Trimming Warehousemen—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E....

Tallow—
Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Tanks—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Tar and Rosin Distillers—
Brotherton & Co., Leeds ...
Robinson, E., & Co., Ltd., City Works, Sheffield ...

Tarpaulin Manufacturers—
Piggott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Tea Merchants—
Tower Tea Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Teak Timber—
Denny, Mott & Dickson, Ltd., 165, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C. ... ...

Telegraph Engineers—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C... C
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Telegraph Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Helsby, Warrington ... ...

Telephones—
Telegraph Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Helsby, Warrington ... ...

Tents, Marquees and Camp Furniture—
Piggott Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Textile Engineers & Machinists—
Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Textile Machinery Manufrs.—
Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Textile Manufacturers—
Hamlyn Bros., Buckfastleigh, Devon ... ...
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E ...
Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale ... ...
Spinner, E., & Co., Manchester

Tiles, Tessellated and Glazed—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Timber Merchants—
Denny, Mott & Dickson, Ltd., 165, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C... ...
Gradwell, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness, Lancs.

PAGE

Timber Merchants and Importers—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Liverpool .. ..
Gradwell, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness, Lancs.

Tin Boxes and Canisters—
Tinplate Decorating Co., Ltd., The, Neath 20

Tobacco Flavour Manufacturers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. ...
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...

Tool Manufacturers—
Luke & Spencer, Ltd.. Broadheath, Manchester 16
Thornton, George, & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Towels—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester

Traction Engines—
Aveling & Porter, Ltd., Rochester ... ...

Tube Mill Machinery—
Jones, George, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

Tubes and Fittings—
Dugard Bros., Birmingham.. 15
Russell, J., & Sons, Ltd., Wednesbury 15
Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Birmingham 4

Tweeds—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E....
Platt, Jas., & Co., 77, St. Martin's Lane, W.C.... ...

Twines—
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool 14

Typewriter—
Yost Typewriter Co., Ltd., The, London, E.C. ... ...

PAGE

Tyre Manufacturers—
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N.... ... ...

Valves for Compressed Gases—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Varnish Manufacturers—
Blackwell & Co., Dyer's Buildings, E.C.... ... ...
Flack, Henry, London, S.E...
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E. ... ...
Palmer, W. H., & Co., 82, Old Street, E C. ... ...
Parker & Lester, London, S.E. (Parker's Imperial Black)... ... ...
Robinson, E., & Co., Ltd., City Works, Sheffield ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Vegetable Colours—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E....
Confectioners' Vegetable Colour and Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., The, London, N.E. ... ...
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

Ventilators—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Bolton ...

Vinegar Makers—
Grimble & Co., Ltd., Cumberland Market, N.W. ... ...
Hills & Underwood, London, E.C. ... ...

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Piggott Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Waiter and Tray Manufacturers—
Frank Hawker Carpathian Silver Co., Ltd., 52, Spencer-street, Birmingham ... ...

Washers—
Periam, Herbert W., Ltd., Floodgate-street Works, Birmingham ... ...

Watch and Clock Manufacturers—
Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 & 34, Cockspur-street, London ... ...

Water Meters, Sluice Valves, Steam Valves and Fire Appliances—
Simpson, J., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Waterproof Manufacturers—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C...
Piggott Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Waterproof Paint Manufacturers—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E.

Water Softeners—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading C

Water Taps—
Palatine Engineering Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Weaving Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...
Whiteley, Wm., & Sons, Lockwood, Huddersfield...

Wheels—
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N.... ... ...

Whip and Walking Stick Makers—
Narborough, F., 42 & 44, Lombard-street, Birmingham ... ...

White Lead Manufacturers—
Mersey White Lead Co., Ltd., Warrington ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

PAGE

Wine and Spirit Merchants—
Chaplin, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, W.C. ... ...
Crawford, Daniel, & Son, Ltd., Glasgow ... ...
Dailuaine-Talisker Distilleries, Ltd., Head Offices, 50, Wellington-street, Glasgow (Whisky from solely pure Malt) ... ...
Distillers Co., Ltd. (The Edinburgh "D.C.L." Whisky and Gin) ... ...
Hills & Underwood, London, E.C. ... ...
Morgan & Co., Hamburg ...

Wire Manufacturers—
Cradock, G., & Co., Wakefield 18
Dugard Bros., Birmingham (Brass and Copper) 15
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham (Wire Nails, Rods, Bars, Hoops, &c.) 6
Power, F. A., & Son, Saltley, Birmingham ... ...
Shipman, J., & Co., Attercliffe, Sheffield ... ...

Wire Rope Manufacturers—
Cradock, G., & Co., Wakefield 18
Lewis, Joseph, 5 & 6, Great Winchester-street, London, E.C. ... ...

Wireworkers and Weavers—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich 17
Power, F. A., & Son, Saltley, Birmingham ... ...

Wood Block Flooring—
Geary, Walker & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Wood Stains—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E.
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E. ... ...

PAGE

Wolsey Unshrinkable Wool-Underwear—
Walker, R., & Sons, Rutland Street, Leicester ... ...

Wool Importers—
Hall, John, & Sons, Liverpool ... ...

Wool, Tops, Noils, Wastes, &c.—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford... ... ...

Woollen, Cotton, and Linen Cloths for Machinery—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury

Woollen Machinery Manufacturers—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury (Power Looms and all kinds of Weaving Machinery) ... ...

Woollen Warehousemen and Manufacturers—
Grainger & Smith, Dudley...
Hamlyn Bros., Ltd., Buckfastleigh, Devon ... ...
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E. ...
Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale ... ...
Platt, James, & Co., Woollen Merchants and General Warehousemen, London, W.C. ... ...
Spinner, E., & Co., Manchester

Worsted and Woollen Yarns—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford ... ...

Worsted Suiting Manufacturer—
Dickinson, Herbert, 14, Northumberland Street, Huddersfield ... ...

Yacht Builders—
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...

Yarn Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Zephyr Cloth Manufacturers—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow ... ...

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Messrs. G. M. Callender & Co., Limited, of 25, Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W., have lined throughout with pure bitumen sheeting the Bramley Baths.

The Hydrolytic Tank Construction Company, 47, Victoria Street, Westminster, have a pamphlet descriptive of their hydrolytic tank and oxidysing-beds.

The Electrical Company, Limited, of Charing Cross Road, London, W.C., issue a price-list of their electrical motors. The data usually supplied are set out very plainly and clearly, and by a reference to a table and drawings, "dimensioned" with reference letters, the dimensions of the various sizes can easily be found.

The Underfeed Stoking Company, Limited, Coventry House, South Place, Finsbury, E.C., issue a catalogue describing the various types of their underfeed stokers. These are varied so as to suit different kinds of boilers, and, while some are driven by their own motors, others are adapted for being driven by gearing. From the diagrams, photographs and descriptive letterpress the general principles of underfeed stoking can be readily grasped as well as the construction and working of the devices described. Reports of tests are appended to the catalogue, giving the results of trials showing the saving effected by underfeed stoking over hand stoking, with various types of boilers and kinds of coal.

The following Admiralty Charts have recently been newly issued, or so largely corrected as to render a new Chart desirable. The date of the alteration is notified in the centre of the bottom of the Chart.

NOTE.—Charts that have received such alterations as can usually be made by hand on the Charts in use, in agreement with the "Notices to Mariners," are not described in the List below. The date of such alteration is shown at the left hand lower corner of the Chart.

Chart No.	Title of Chart, and Nature and Subject of Correction.
X 15	Diagram to facilitate the obtaining of a ship's position by Sumner's Method. New chart, September.
1625	England, E., Seaham Harbour. Amendments, December.
1167	" W., Bristol Channel, Carmarthen Bay, Burry Inlet. Large amendments and additions to lights and buoys, December.
2646	France, W., sheet v., Bourgneuf to Ile de Groix. Loire River ent., December.
2989	" " entrance to the Loire River and approaches to St. Nazaire. Large corrections, December.
87	Spain and Portugal, W, Cape Finisterre to Cape St. Vincent. Cape St. Vincent and plan Sines Bay added, December.
461	Africa, W., sketch survey of Wari and Benin Rivers and Creeks. Forcados River, December.
665	Africa, E., Zanzibar Harbour and its approaches. Zanzibar Harbour, December.
1235	Persian Gulf, mouth of the Euphrates, Shatt al Arab and Bahmishir River. Large amendments, December.
1348	China Sea, Natuna Islands. Large corrections, December.
2618	" Formosa (Taiwan), N., Ke Lung Harbour (Kūrunkō of the Japanese). General amendments, December.
3463	Philippine Islands, Mindanao, S., Dumunkilas Bay. New chart, December.
3461	S. Pacific Ocean, Tubuai or Austral Islands, Vavitao or Ravaïvaï. New chart, December.
3239 to 3250	Wind charts for the S. Atlantic Ocean. New charts, bound together in an Atlas.

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Agent for the sale of Admiralty Charts, Mr. J. D. POTTER, 145, *Minories, London, E.*

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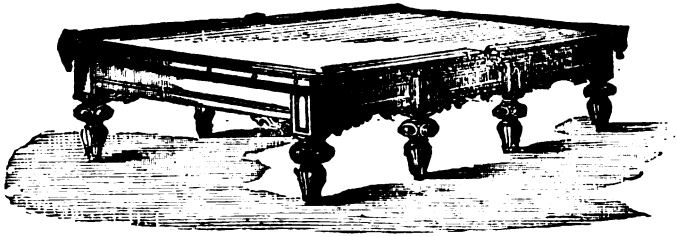

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THE Board of Trade Journal

(With which is incorporated the "Imperial Institute Journal.")

Edited by the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

FEBRUARY 23, 1905.

	PAGE
OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE	339
BRITISH TRADE ABROAD (SOUTH ITALY)	347
PHOSPHATE DEPOSITS IN TUNIS	349
TIN INDUSTRY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	351
PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES	353
TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS	353
SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT	368
MINERALS, METALS, AND MACHINERY	370
AGRICULTURE	373
MISCELLANEOUS	374
STATISTICAL TABLES	380
GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS (BOARD OF TRADE,* FOREIGN OFFICE, COLONIAL OFFICE, &c.)	382

For list of contents in detail see p. vii. of Advertisements.

* *For list of principal publications of Board of Trade see p. v. of Advertisements.*

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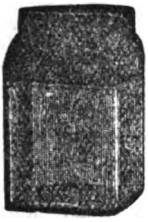

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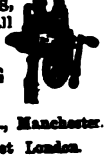
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Memorandum on the comparative Statistics of Population, Industry and Commerce of the United Kingdom and some leading Foreign Countries. [Cd. 1199/1902.] Price 5½*d.*

Preferential Trade Return, showing the advantages granted to other countries in States where British trade does not enjoy most-favoured-nation treatment. [329/1903.] Price 1½*d.*

Report to the Board of Trade by the Advisory Committee on Commercial Intelligence, with reference to their Proceedings. [Cd. 2,044/04] Price 4½*d.*

Tea and Coffee.—Statement showing the Imports of Tea and Coffee into the principal Countries of Europe, the United States, and British Colonies. [363/1902.] Price 6*d.*

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Board of Trade Journal.

FEBRUARY 23RD, 1905.

CONTENTS.

PAGE

Openings for British Trade 339

British Colonies, &c.:—

British India.—Tenders for Paints, &c.

Canada.—Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

Ceylon.—Opening for Public Works.

Orange River Colony.—Opening for Railway Material.

Foreign Countries:—

Openings for Trade in Egypt, Russia, Netherlands, Switzerland—Italy, Belgium, Spain, Spanish West Africa, Italy, Brazil, Uruguay, and China.

British Trade Abroad (South Italy) 347

Phosphate Deposits in Tunis 349

Tin Industry of the United States of America 351

Proposed Tariff Changes 353

Ceylon. Haiti.

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations 353

British India. Canada. Australian Commonwealth. New Zealand. British Central Africa Protectorate. Spain. Italy. Austria-Hungary. Haiti.

Shipping and Transport 368

Sea-carriage of Goods Act, 1904, of Australian Commonwealth. Revised Scale of Wharfage Charges on Goods at Victorian Ports. Agreement between the Costa Rica Government and the Costa Rica Railway.

Minerals, Metals, and Machinery 370

Output of Mines in United Kingdom. Mineral Production of Tasmania. Export of Diamonds from Cape Colony in 1904. Production of Pig-iron in the United States of America in 1904. Measures for the Development of Coal Mines in Brazil. Gold Discovery in Shantung (China).

Agriculture... 373

Export of Rice from Saigon in 1904. Exploitation of Spanish Colonies in West Africa.

Miscellaneous 374

State of the Labour Market of the United Kingdom in January, 1905. Fishery Statistics of the United Kingdom in January, 1905. Proposed Amendment of Fisheries Law in Cape Colony. Brest-Dakar Cable. Palm-leaf Hat Trust of Malaga. Rise in Exchange Value of Greek Drachma. Trade of Tangier and District. Trade of Galveston in 1904. Registration of Trade Marks in Brazil. Opening of Frozen Meat Establishment in Uruguay. Customs Receipts of Uruguay.

Statistical Tables 380

Cotton Returns.

Corn Prices.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

Government Publications 382

Board of Trade Returns and Labour Gazette. Note of Foreign Office Reports, also of certain other Government Publications having a bearing upon trade issued during the week. List of Foreign Office Reports, arranged geographically, also a list of Colonial Office Reports issued since the beginning of the year.

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THE

Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. XLVIII.] February 23, 1905. [No. 430

In a notice on p. 386 will be found a statement of the objects and work of the **Commercial Intelligence Branch** of the Board of Trade.

The Branch has been moved from 50, Parliament Street to 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

"Advantage, London" is the registered telegraphic address of the Branch.

The Temporary Enquiry Office, hitherto at 49, Eastcheap, E.C., has also been moved to 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

The following special trade enquiry offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.	Queensland.
Dominion of Canada.	Cape of Good Hope.

(See "Board of Trade Journal," 15th December, pp. 488-9, or 22nd December, p. 541.)

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

BRITISH INDIA.

Paints, &c.

The Board of Directors of the Southern Mahratta Railway Company, Limited, are prepared to receive tenders for:—

1. 37 tons of paints, &c.,
2. 33 tons of red and white lead,
3. 3,000 gallons of turpentine,

as per specifications which may be seen at the offices of the Company, 46, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W. The charge for each specification is one guinea, which will not be returned.

Tenders must be sent in addressed to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Paints, &c.," or as the case may be, not later than 12 noon on Tuesday, the 7th March.

The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

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Openings for British Trade.

CANADA.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following were among the recent enquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the **Canadian Government Offices, Victoria Street, S.W.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—A London manufacturer of bronze powders of various kinds is desirous of pushing the sale of these goods in Canada, and is looking out for selling agents there.

A London firm desire to get into communication with a reliable Canadian firm dealing in sugar and other commodities used by confectioners, biscuit bakers, &c., with a view to taking up the agency for desiccated cocoanut.

The addresses of Canadian exporters of skewers, handles for hammers, pick shafts, &c., have been enquired for.

A firm of art metal workers and craftsmen in all metals for ecclesiastical and domestic use desire to extend their business connection with Canada, and ask to be referred to persons interested.

A firm who are likely to be large buyers of butter, cheese and eggs for the London market are anxious to get into communication with exporters in Canada.

A correspondent interested in various patents of use to tube manufacturers has asked to be placed in communication with Canadian firms in the business.

An engineering firm desire to extend their Canadian business in forced draught furnaces for steam boilers, and refuse destructors.

Canadian Enquiries.—A manufacturers' agent in Montreal is seeking the representation in Canada of a high class hosiery firm or a Belfast linen and canvas firm.

Enquiry is made by a Canadian firm of agents for names of English firms who supply cast iron water and gas pipe, fire clay goods such as sewer pipe and fittings, fire bricks, &c., gas engines, cast iron valves for water and gas, and water works supplies generally.

Enquiry has been made from Montreal for an English lace manufacturer or corset and fancy article exporter desiring representation in Canada.

A Toronto firm desire to get into communication with English firms publishing greeting cards, post card albums and post card revolving stands, with a view to representing them in the Canadian market.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, Victoria Street, S.W.

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Openings for British Trade.

CANADA—*continued.*

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following trade enquiries have been received at the Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—A firm manufacturing silverware, toilet articles and similar goods wish to do business in Canada.

A correspondent possessing a connection among capitalists wishes to get into communication with a first class firm in Canada possessing facilities for securing electric tramway and similar concessions.

A firm manufacturing vinegar, pickles, sauces, &c., wish to do business in Canada.

A firm of timber brokers would be pleased to hear from Canadian manufacturers of boxes and cooperage stock.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

CEYLON.

Public Works.

The "Ceylon Government Gazette" of 20th January, publishes a draft of a proposed Ordinance to raise a loan of 1,000,000*l.* for the construction of railway, harbour or any public work on which the expenditure of the moneys raised under this Ordinance shall be approved by resolution of the Legislative Council, for the completion of the Colombo waterworks, and for the construction of works for the drainage of Colombo.

ORANGE RIVER COLONY.

Railway Material.

The "Government Gazette" of the Orange River Colony of 9th January contains the text of a draft ordinance authorising the construction of a railway from Ladybrand to Modderpoort, and the issue of a loan of 25,000*l.* for the purpose. All material and stores required are to be provided by the Administration of the Colony.

EGYPT.

Grain Sacks.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by Lieut.-Colonel Western, London Agent for the Egyptian War Office, that tenders will be received at the Financial Secretary's Office, Cairo, up to 12 noon on the 14th March, for the supply of 30,000 small Dundee grain sacks at the War Department Stores, Tourah.

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Openings for British Trade.

A copy of the specification may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., or may be obtained from the Financial Secretary's Office, Cairo. A deposit of £E 40 is required to qualify any tender.

RUSSIA.

Compasses and Nautical Instruments.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received a letter from the British Vice-Consul at Kertch (Mr. R. C. Michell) notifying that he has received an enquiry for the name of a British dealer in compasses and nautical instruments from a local merchant desiring to open communication with such.

Communications (enclosing catalogue) should be addressed to the British Vice-Consul, Vice-Consulate, Kertch, Crimea.

NETHERLANDS.

Coal.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from H.M. Consul at Rotterdam a notification to the effect that tenders will be received up to the 1st March next, for the supply and delivery of about 4,000 tons of English coal at the Naval Establishments at Hellevoetsluis.

The coal must be from one of the following mines :—

South Yorkshire Edmunds or Mitchel.
Sunderland Lambton West Hartley.
Davison's West Hartley.
Hastings Hartley.
Broomhill West Hartley.
Wombwell Main.
Wilson's Glencraig.
Whitehill.

The coal must not contain more than 13 per cent. small coal. A certificate of origin, viséd by the Netherlands Consul at the port of shipment, must be produced. Delivery, in quantities of from 600 to 800 tons, is to be made within two weeks after the opening of tenders. The depth of water alongside the discharging quay is 16 feet. Tenders should be addressed to the Director of Naval Establishments, Hellevoetsluis.

SWITZERLAND—ITALY.

Proposed Railway Across the Bernese Alps.

The "Bollettino delle Finanze" (Rome) of 12th February reports that a Commission has recently been sitting at Berne to report on the question of constructing a railway across the Bernese Alps, to connect Berne with the new Simplon line. Of the four

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schemes examined by the Commission, they reported favourably on one presented by M. Emch, suggesting a railway from Frutigen, across the Lötschberg Peak, to Brieg; and on another, submitted by M. Beyeler, suggesting a line from Kersatz to Brieg, across the Wildstrubel Peak.

BELGIUM.

Electric Lighting Plant.

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" states that tenders will shortly be invited by the Belgian State Railways for the installation of electric light in the South station at Antwerp.

Railway Plant.

The "Bulletin Commercial" of 18th February announces that tenders will be opened at noon, on 5th April, at the "Bourse de Commerce," Brussels, for the construction of a railway between Couilliet-Montignies and Acoz, at the estimated cost of 556,555 fr. (about 22,262*l.*). A deposit of 28,000 fr. (about 1,120*l.* is required to qualify any tender. Specifications (*Cahier des charges spécial No.* 39 *de* 1905), price 1 fr. 40 c., and further particulars may be obtained from the principal engineer, M. Clément, 48 rue Pepin, Namur.

SPAIN.

Sulphate of Copper.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 14th February announces that tenders will be opened, 30 days after the publication of the notice, at the offices of the Director-General of the Telegraph Department, 10 Calle de Carretas, Madrid, for the supply of 20 tons of sulphate of copper, to be delivered in four equal lots at Madrid, Cordova, Barcelona and Valladolid. The maximum price at which tenders will be received is 970 pesetas (about 29*l.*) per ton. A deposit of 5 per cent. of the value of the goods at the upset price is required to qualify any tender. Local representation is necessary.

Electric Tramway Plant.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 17th February publishes a Decree authorising the Carthagena Tramways Company to substitute electric, for animal, traction on the lines between Carthagena and San Antonio Abad, Dolores, Barris, Peral and Santa Lucia.

Steam Tramway Concession.

The same issue of the "Gaceta" contains an announcement to the effect that an application, accompanied by a plan and guarantee, having been presented by the Municipality of Santoña for a concession for a steam tramway between Gama and Santoña, one month is

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Openings for British Trade.

SPAIN—*continued.*

allowed for the presentation of applications, accompanied by the necessary plans and guarantees, upon terms more favourable to the Government.

Waterworks; Water Meters.

The "Gaceta" of 18th February, publishes a Decree authorising the Minister of Agriculture, Industry, Commerce and Public Works to expend 700,000 pesetas (about 21,167*l.*) on improvements in connection with the supply and distribution of water from the Isabella II. Canal. The principal items of expenditure provided for are the construction of an aqueduct, at a cost of 348,860 pesetas (about 10,549*l.*) and the purchase of water meters, at a cost of 200,000 pesetas (about 6,047*l.*)

The "Gacetas" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

SPANISH WEST AFRICA.

Exploitation of Spanish Colonies in West Africa.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid (Mr. F. L. Cartwright) reporting that according to an unofficial communiqué made to the Press, in the course of the Cabinet Council held on 26th January, the Minister for Foreign Affairs announced his intention of opening a competition for the submission of tenders for the exploitation by private companies of the whole or part of the Spanish West African Possessions.

The Government are authorised by Article 6 of the Budget Law for the West African Possessions of 1904, which is now in force, to make these contracts directly; but the Minister for Foreign Affairs prefers that this should be done by means of a competition, and the Council of Ministers has agreed to this view.

ITALY.

India Rubber Fittings.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from the British Vice-Consul at Spezia (Mr. E. M. de Garston) translation of a notice calling for tenders for the supply to the Italian Navy of india-rubber fittings to the estimated value of 40,000 lire (about 1,600*l.*), to be delivered at the Royal Arsenal at Spezia as required.

This contract will be adjudged on the "single action" system (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 22nd December last, p. 537). Sealed tenders will be opened at 11 a.m. on the 28th March, a

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Openings for British Trade.

ITALY—*continued.*

deposit of 4,000 lire (about 160*l.*) being required to qualify any tender. The summing up of the various tenders received and the final adjudication of the contract will take place at Spezia on 1st April. Local representation is necessary.

The special conditions of contract may be seen at the Ministry of Marine, Rome; at the Directorates-General of the Royal Arsenals; at the Technical Office of the Navy at Genoa; and at the principal Chambers of Commerce in Italy.

Inducements for the Establishment of New Industries at Naples.

On p. 348 will be found an extract from the report of H.M. Consul-General at Naples (Mr. E. Neville Rolfe, M.V.O.), respecting inducements offered by the Italian Government for the establishment of new industries at Naples.

Electric Tramway Plant.

The Italian "Gazzetta Ufficiale" of 7th February publishes a Decree authorising the Leghorn Tramways Company to construct and work an electric tramway (1·445 metre gauge) in that city.

The "Gazzetta Ufficiale" of 18th February publishes a Decree, authorising the Roman Tramways and Omnibus Company to substitute electric, for animal, traction on the tramway between the Piazza del Popolo and Ponte Milvio.

Automobiles.

The "Gazzetta Ufficiale" of 13th February, publishes a Law authorising the Minister of Public Works to grant subsidies for the establishment and working of automobile services in districts which are not served by railways and tramways. The annual subsidy shall not exceed 500 lire (about 25*l.*) per kilom. for a service carrying passengers, luggage and goods; 400 lire (about 16*l.*) per kilom. for a service carrying only passengers, luggage and small agricultural produce; and 200 lire (about 8*l.*) per kilom. for a service carrying only goods. The subsidy shall be granted for a term of not more than ten years, which term may be renewed.

The "Gazetta" containing the full text of the Law may be seen on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

Hydro-Electric Plant.

The "Bollettino delle Finanze" (Rome) of 18th February, notifies an application received by the Prefect of Brescia from Messrs. A. D'Amico and Co., of Milan, for the appropriation of 600 litres per second from the Agna waterfall, situated at the boundary of the territories of Degana and Vobarno.

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Openings for British Trade.

AUSTRIA—HUNGARY.

Textile Machinery.

The "Revue d'Orient" (Budapest) of 20th February, states that a company, with a capital of 1,500,000 crowns, has recently been formed in that city with a view to establishing a jute and hemp industry. A factory employing 500 workmen is to be opened at Erzsébetfalva, near Budapest, for the manufacture of jute bags and piece goods.

In the same issue of the "Revue" it is stated that a company has been founded at Temesvár with a capital of 1,000,000 crowns, to establish a textile industry.

BRAZIL.

Railway Plant.

The "Diario Official" of 28th January publishes Decrees authorising the Minister of Industry, Railways and Public Works to expend:—

1. 600,000 milreis (about 35,000*l.*) on the extension of the main line of the Central Railway of Brazil.

2. 600,000 milreis (about 35,000*l.*) on widening the gauge of the Taubaté-S.Paulo section of the Central Railway of Brazil.

3. 400,000 milreis (about 23,333*l.*) on elevating the S. Diogo-S. Christovão section of the Central Railway of Brazil.

URUGUAY.

Wire Fencing.

According to "Export" (Berlin) there is at the present time a large demand for wire fencing in Uruguay, the fences in several provinces having been totally destroyed during the recent revolution. The cheaper kinds of fencing are most in demand. The wire fencing imported comes mainly from Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States, the first-named country sending the largest quantity.

CHINA.

Ice Plants.

According to a recent report by the United States Consul at Hangchow, there is a growing demand in the large inland cities of Central and Southern China for ice during the summer months, and there would appear to be a field for the establishment of ice plants.

He writes:—"In Hangchow, a city of something like a million people, there is not a single ice plant, although the demand for ice is constantly increasing. During the summer months some of the large fish merchants have ice brought with fish stocks from Ningpo, where it has been secured from the north during the winter. It is

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Openings for British Trade.

CHINA—*continued.*

proposed that the large cotton factory here should utilise some of its property for an ice plant in connection with its other work, and the factory authorities are said to be ready to close with Shanghai agents of a foreign firm for the equipment. There is room for a large independent plant at once, however, and the situation here is no different from that in four or five other cities in this consular district, not to mention the rest of China.

"Pending the establishment of public ice plants in the cities of this part of China, there is a demand for information as to small plants for household or community use."

In this connection, attention is called to the remarks of H.M. Consul Attaché in China (Mr. J. W. Jamieson), in reference to the requisites for pushing goods, and especially machinery, in that country, quoted on p. 158 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 27th October, 1904.

Gold Crushing Machinery.

The "North China Herald" states, on the authority of a Tientsin native paper, that it having been discovered by natives of Têngchou prefecture, Shantung province, that the hill district of Wêntênghsien, of which Langhushan is the highest point, is rich in gold quartz, a number of Shantung officials in Peking have obtained the necessary permission from the Shangpu to develop the Langhushan, or Wolf and Tiger mountain gold deposits, the funds needed for the purchase of crushing and other machinery to be advanced by the Provincial Government of Shantung.

BRITISH TRADE ABROAD.

South Italy.—In his report on the trade of South Italy for 1904, H.M. Consul-General at Naples (Mr. E. Neville Rolfe, M.V.O.), remarks that the establishment of a **British Chamber of Commerce** in Italy (*see* "Board of Trade Journal" for 28th July last, p. 157), the seat of which is at Genoa, should draw the British business men in Italy together and strengthen their hands against the competition of other countries. To those at home who are interested in the Italian trade the institution should be of great benefit, as affording means for testing the credit and capacity of persons employed here as agents, and generally preventing the fraudulent practices of a certain class whose object is to get the goods of confiding importers into their hands and to dispose of

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British Trade Abroad.

them to their own advantage. When these men know that the interests of British traders are watched over by men of business, who know all the intricacies of the market, and all the business men who compose it, they may, it is hoped, be more careful in their proceedings. As the Chamber becomes better known it will also form more and more a medium for trade enquiries, and as it can frankly give an opinion on the credit of individuals and firms it will be the best source of information for traders.

Referring to the announcement made in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 9th February, pp. 250–1, respecting inducements offered for the establishment of new industries at Naples, the following paragraphs from Mr. Rolfe's report may prove of interest:—

"Great progress has been made in the past year in the drainage of the town. The upper part may be said to be completed, and all the work of the Riviera di Chiaia, the drainage of which will now be raised by a pumping station, is practically complete, the street has been repaved and is much improved in many important details. The whole work has been one of enormous labour and extreme difficulty. Naples is now probably the best drained city in the world, and it certainly has a water supply which is surpassed by no other town, large or small." . . .

"To the eastward of Naples lies a vast plain, which is kept in a high state of cultivation, though it is not largely inhabited, having upon it only the cottages of the peasants who cultivate it. It is carefully irrigated, and this gives it the appearance of a marsh, which it scarcely deserves. It is, however, unsuitable for residential purposes, partly from its vicinity to the squalor of the extreme east end of the town and partly on account of the noisome and noisy trades already established there. For the purpose of erecting a series of factories there could be no better place. It is intersected by railways, and is within convenient reach of Naples harbour. The large working-class town of Barra is situated on the edge of it, and not more than a couple of miles from any part of it. The land between the plain and the sea is all taken up by factories and shipbuilding yards, and Vesuvius is far enough off not to be a cause of danger.

"It is here that the Government propose to create a free zone, to attract manufacturing capitalists." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,323.)

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PHOSPHATE DEPOSITS IN TUNIS.

The following particulars relating to phosphate deposits in Tunis are taken from a despatch received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul-General at Tunis (Mr. E. J. L. Berkeley, C.B.):—

In 1895, the Sfax-Gafsa Phosphate Company obtained large mining concessions to the west of Gafsa and soon after began to work a deposit at Metlaoui, about 28 miles distant from that town. They then obtained authority to build a railway from Sfax to Gafsa to facilitate the transport of their produce, and became the Sfax-Gafsa Railway and Phosphate Company. The line to Gafsa, 152 miles long, was completed in 1899. Some time in 1904 they discovered further deposits at Redief, some 30 miles to the west of Metlaoui, in a direct line. They thereupon made preparations to extend their railway to that place and the work, which involves some 30 miles of rail, will be completed in 1906. In 1901, the Company had made a fresh discovery of phosphate deposits at Ain-Moulares which is situated about 30 miles west and north of Metlaoui in a direct line, but they took no steps in regard to it till last year, when they decided to work them, and for that purpose to build another small extension of railway from Gafsa to Ain-Moulares and thus work both their new mines *viâ* Gafsa to Sfax as the port of outlet. But here the Tunisian Government intervened, and, in the interests of the general scheme for the extension of railways throughout the Regency, (see "Board of Trade Journal" for 8th May, 1902, p. 245), suggested to the Company that they should connect Ain-Moulares directly with the port of Soussa. As inducements to this proposal, the Company were offered a considerable enlargement of their existing mining concessions, a concession for the building and working of a railway between Gafsa and Tozeur (the latter an important agricultural and productive district), and finally, that the expenses of building the railway (Gafsa-Tozeur) be refunded to the Company from the yearly royalties ("redevances") payable to the Government by them on their export of phosphates from all their mines. Moreover, a condition was attached, presumably in order to fix, independently of the contracting parties, a reasonable royalty on the new mines at Ain-Moulares, that these mines should be put up to auction. The adjudication at such auctions is settled by the amount of royalty ("redevance") offered to Government. At the same time, it was stipulated that the Sfax-Gafsa Company should have the option, for 15 days after the auction, of claiming the adjudication for themselves at the price for which it was knocked down. The whole of these arrangements were in due course agreed upon between the parties. The auction took place on 21st December last, and the company claimed their option on 5th January following. They thus remain proprietors of all three deposits, viz., Redief, Ain-Moulares and Metlaoui, which are described in detail as follows:—

Redief.—The extension of railway from Metlaoui to this deposit

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Phosphate Deposits in Tunis.

is through a somewhat rugged country, and the expense is roughly estimated as likely to average six thousand pounds (6,000*l.*) per kilometre, or about nine thousand six hundred pounds (9,600*l.*) per mile. The company hope that this line will be completed in the early part of 1906. The deposits of phosphate are said to be rich, the extracts containing 63 to 64 per cent. of tribasic phosphates, besides 19 per cent. of carbonate of lime, 5 per cent. of silica, and traces of oxide of aluminium. Of these constituents the most important is the carbonate of lime, which is chiefly used in the manufacture of superphosphates. The cost of transport from Redief *viâ* Gafsa to Sfax (the port of outlet), is estimated as likely to be 3 frs. 71 cts. (3*s.*) per ton, the royalty ("redevance") due to Government is fixed at 58 cts. (6*d.*) per ton, to which must be added 50 cts. (5*d.*) export duty.

Ain-Moulares.—As stated above, this deposit will be connected by a new line running to the port of Soussa. The work will involve some 180 miles of rail, and the expense is roughly estimated at 18,000,000 frs. (720,000*l.*) The phosphates here are also rich, perhaps more so than those at Redief. The extracts are reported to contain from 65 to 70 per cent. of tribasic phosphate, the other constituents corresponding exactly with those above. The cost of transport from Ain-Moulares to Soussa (the port of outlet) is estimated as likely to be 9 frs. (7*s.* 2*d.*) per ton; the royalty is fixed at 1 fr. 52 cts. (1*s.* 3*d.*) per ton, and the export duty 50 cts. (5*d.*)

Metlaoui.—This deposit is well known, having now been worked for some years. The extracts are reported to contain 60 per cent. of tribasic phosphate, the other constituents being again the same as above. The cost of transport to Sfax (the port of outlet) is 3 frs. 26 cts. (2*s.* 8*d.*) per ton; the royalty is 58 cts. (6*d.*) and the export duty 50 cts. (5*d.*) No less than four hundred thousand tons of phosphate were extracted during 1904 from this deposit and shipped to Europe, chiefly to the United Kingdom, France and Italy.

The above set of figures may be conveniently tabulated as under:—

Name of Mine.	Local charges per ton.			Total.
	Railway Transport.	Royalty.	Export Duty.	
	s. d.	s. d.	d.	s. d.
Metlaoui	2 8	0 6	5	3 7
Redief	3 0	0 6	5	3 11
Ain-Moulares	7 2	1 3	5	8 10

A rough sketch map of the region to which this report relates may be inspected at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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TIN INDUSTRY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

The following particulars of the tin industry of the United States of America are taken from a report of the United States Geological Survey, summarised in the "Iron Age" (New York).

This report, which is the most complete *résumé* of the subject thus far attempted by the Survey, embraces a brief description of the process of "detinning" by which a considerable number of companies are now engaged in recovering the metal from new tin scrap, and a statement of the most recent developments in the South Dakota, Wyoming, Alaska, and the so-called Carolina tin belts, in addition to the latest available statistics of the world's production.

As in former years, there was no commercial production of tin from domestic ores in the United States during the year 1903, although many hundred tons of metallic tin and chemical salts of tin, chiefly the chlorides, have been obtained by the chemical or electrolytic treatment of new tin scraps from tin can and fruit tin factories. But as tin from these sources is manifestly of secondary origin, the quantity so produced cannot be properly classified as a first mineral or metal product in the sense that those terms are used in the statistics presented by the United States Geological Survey.

The treatment of new **Tin Scrap**, known as "detinning," has become of considerable importance in the United States, and at least ten companies were actively engaged in this special branch of the industry during the year 1903. The average yield from tin scrap is approximately 2 per cent. of metallic tin. In addition, a large number of small concerns in the principal cities recover the tin from old tin cans and similar material by a smelting treatment in a furnace, the tin being obtained in the form of solder, which is either used as a basis for making new solder or is treated chemically to yield metallic tin or tin salts. The residue of scrap iron is generally utilized in the manufacture of sash weights and other castings of inferior quality of iron.

The mineral, cassiterite, containing 78·6 per cent. of metallic tin, has been found in no less than 17 States and Territories of the United States, yet in only two or three places have attempts on a large scale been made to place the industry in this country on a productive footing. Notable among the discoveries of domestic tin ore are the deposits at Harney Peak, in the Black Hills of **South Dakota**, and the deposits in **North** and **South Carolina** and in **Alaska**. The development of these deposits, however, has not as yet been carried forward to financial success.

Although there has been no appreciable development of the Harney Peak properties, the Tinton Tin Company, controlled by Chicago interests, has been working during the last two years on its claims situated in what is known as the Nigger Hill and Beer Gulch districts, west of Deadwood and Lead, S. Dak., and 75 miles north-west of Harney Peak. This new district is partly in Lawrence County, S. Dak., and partly in Crook County, Wyo., being

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Tin Industry of the United States of America.

on the border line of the two States. The Tinton Tin Company have been working a small concentrating plant, but, owing to the lack of proper smelting facilities in the United States, they have shipped to European ports for treatment a carload of concentrates said to contain an average of 62·5 per cent. of metallic tin. One parcel of the Company's property, 140 by 50 feet, and another 90 by 6 feet, yielded an average mill return of 1·16* per cent. of metallic tin, which was 0·16 per cent. greater than the assays of hand samples made in the laboratory. The quantity of ore so far treated has averaged 1* per cent. of metallic tin, and the concentrates therefrom have ranged from 62·5 to 65 per cent. of metallic tin.

The tin deposits of the York region, Seward Peninsula, Alaska, were recently described in a bulletin of the United States Geological Survey (summarised on pp. 128—60 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 28th April, 1904).

Several tons of tin ores have been shipped from the deposits of Buck Creek, and several companies have been working their claims during 1903. In one instance an average of 27 pounds of concentrates containing 60 per cent. of metallic tin was obtained from a cubic yard of gravel. Cassiterite is found irregularly distributed over an area of 450 square miles of the Seward Peninsula, and though many discoveries of lode tin other than those referred to have been prospected none has yet been proved of workable value.

What may be called the Carolina tin belt extends from Gaffney, Cherokee County, in a general north-easterly direction across this county, across the south-eastern corner of Cleveland County, and across Gaston and Lincoln counties. The tin deposits found in Rockbridge County, Virginia, may be a continuation of the Carolina tin belt.

The principal deposits that have thus far been located are the Ross mine at Gaffney; the deposits in the vicinity of the town of Kings Mountain; on the southern end of Chestnut Ridge, about 2½ miles north-east of Kings Mountain, and on the John E. Jones plantation, 7 miles north-east of Kings Mountain.

The Southern Railway passes over a considerable portion of the tin belt, following almost the general direction of the formation from Kings Mountain to Gaffney. At the former place the railway turns sharply to the east, crossing the tin belt, which continues toward the north-east. Thus any commercial deposits that may be developed will have good railway facilities.

The first production of tin ore from the Carolina belt was during the summer and autumn of 1903 and was from the Ross mine, the shipment consisting of 38,471 pounds of tin concentrates, which were sent to England for treatment. There has also been a small production at the Jones mine during the development work, but none of this has as yet been shipped.

* *Sic in orig.*

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PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES.

CEYLON.

Proposed Alteration of Duties on Perfumery.

A copy of the "Ceylon Government Gazette" for 27th January last has been received, containing a Draft of a proposed Ordinance, published for general information, to re-adjust the Customs duties leviable on perfumery and perfumed spirits imported into the Colony of Ceylon.

The Ordinance provides that, in the place of a duty of Rs. 7 per gall. at present imposed upon perfumery and perfumed spirits under Ordinance No. 2 of 1905, the following duties shall be leviable on the passing of the proposed Ordinance:—

On perfumed spirits and bay rum	... per gall.	Rs. 7
,, perfumery, other than perfumed spirits	*ad val.*	5½ %

HAITI.

Rumoured Alterations in Customs Tariff.

With reference to the notice which appears on p. 367 of to-day's "Journal," on the subject of alterations in the Customs Tariff of Haiti, it is to be noted that H.M. Consul-General at Port-au-Prince, in transmitting the tariff there referred to, states that he is informed that it is the intention of the Government to modify the present tariff on the re-assembling of the Legislature in the month of April next.

TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

BRITISH INDIA.

Tariff Amendments.

With reference to the notice which appeared in the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 9th February relating to the duties imposed, under Notification No. 8,129 S. R. of 23rd December, 1904, on metals imported into British India, the Board of Trade have now received copies of further Notifications, Nos. 117 and 259 S. R. of 6th and 13th January last (Customs Circular No. 3 of 1905), amending item No. 15 of the above-mentioned Notification of 23rd December last, by the imposition of duties on certain classes of metals, as follows:—

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

Articles.	Tariff Valuation.	Rate of Duty.
Item 15. *For*—	R. a.	
"Zinc or spelter, tiles or slabs, soft Cwt.	19 0	5 %
" " plates and other shapes, hard"... ... Cwt.	16 0	"
" " all other sorts, including boiler tiles	*ad val.*	"
Read—		
"Zinc or spelter tiles or slabs, soft Cwt.	19 0	"
" " " " hard" "	16 0	"
" " all other sorts, including boiler tiles	*ad val.*	"
" *Insert the following paragraph under both "iron" and "steel"*:—		
Rails, chairs, sleepers, and fish-plates, other than those described in item No. 60, also spikes (commonly known as dog spikes), switches, crossings, lever-boxes, clips and tie-bars	"	1 %

DOMINION OF CANADA.

Further Regulations regarding Customs Invoice Forms and Entries.

With reference to the notice which appeared in the "Board of Trade Journal" for 15th September last, relating to the new Customs regulations affecting Customs Invoices, Forms and Entries (Memorandum No. 1294, B), which came into force on 1st October, 1904, the Board of Trade have now received a Customs Memorandum (No. 1,308 B) issued on 20th January, 1905, drawing attention to the previous Memorandum (No. 1,294 B), and further notifying that—

"Exporters are required to show on invoices of goods exported to Canada the amount of any freight prepaid on such goods, and also the amount of any freight allowance made by the exporter to the purchaser in Canada, in order that the Collector of Customs may determine the actual selling price of the goods to the Canadian purchaser, *in the country of export*, in condition packed ready for shipment as prescribed by the Customs regulations."

The present Memorandum states that "the 'fair market value' of goods manufactured solely for export, and not sold for home consumption, may usually be determined by ascertaining the total cost to produce the goods in condition ready for the market, including all expenses, and adding thereto the usual rates of profit made on home consumption sales of similar lines of goods. This basis should be followed by exporters in arriving at the estimate of value to be stated by them on their Invoices."

It will be deemed a sufficient compliance with the regulations by the exporters in such cases, if they make a statement on their

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

DOMINION OF CANADA—*continued.*

invoices to the effect that the goods are not sold for home consumption, and if they, in addition, state an estimated value in the column for the fair market value. The certificate as to the market value will be held to be qualified by the estimate of value, and by the statement that the goods are not sold for home consumption.

It is further notified that the values to be stated in the "home consumption" value column of Invoices of Goods (for specimen form *see* "Board of Trade Journal for 15th September, 1904) sold by the exporter prior to shipment to Canada are the *rate* values per yard, gallon, dozen, or as the case may be. Such value may be shown by stating the list price and the rate of discount, without the *total* value.

Customs Decisions.

A copy of an Appraisers' Bulletin (No. 89), issued by the Canadian Commissioner of Customs on 7th January last, has been received, giving Customs decisions as to the rates of duty leviable on various articles imported into the Dominion, as follows:—

Articles.	Tariff Item.	General rate of Duty (*a*).
Swiss milk chocolate and like preparations in which cocoa is the chief component material, and not being cocoa paste, cocoa, or cocoa butter	93	20 % *ad val.*
Agar-agar, Kanten, or Chinese isinglass, or Japanese isinglass	27	25 % "
Spruce tree seed	61	10 % "
Automobiles	323	35 % "
Rubber tires for automobiles	323	35 % "

(*a*) It is to be remarked that the above rates are subject to a reduction of *one-third* of the duty if entitled to the benefits of the British Preferential Tariff, or, on the other hand, to an addition of *one-third* if the goods be subject to the provisions of the surtax Tariff.

Revised Duties on Articles for use in Canadian Manufactures.

A copy of a Customs memorandum (No. 1,306 B.), dated 7th January last, has been received, notifying that by Orders-in-Council of 7th January, 1905, it is provided, viz.:—

1. "That under the authority contained in sub-section (*l*) of section 245 of the Customs Act, 'carbons over 6 inches in circumference' be transferred to the list of goods which may be imported into Canada free of duty, until otherwise provided, when for use as materials in Canadian manufactures."

2. "That under the authority contained in sub-section (*u*) of section 245 of the Customs Act as amended, the duty, under Schedule 'A' of the Customs Tariff, on the following articles be

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

DOMINION OF CANADA—*continued.*

reduced as hereinafter mentioned, when such articles are imported by manufacturers of burial caskets or burial robes for use in the manufacture of burial caskets or burial robes in their own factories, until otherwise provided, viz.:—

"Casket gimps and fringes, and embroidered or embossed chiffon—the rate to be reduced from 35 per cent. to 10 per cent.; silk cloth, including satin, the rate to be reduced from 30 per cent. to 10 per cent."

The memorandum further states that "to avoid possible misapprehension it is ordered that the said reduced rates shall be subject to further reduction by one-third thereof under the provisions of the Preferential Tariff, or to an addition of one-third thereof under the provisions of the Surtax Tariff, if the importation of the goods properly come under such Preferential or Surtax Tariffs."

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

Customs Decisions.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of the "Commonwealth of Australia Gazette" for 7th January last, containing Customs Decisions, issued on the 24th and 31st December last, relating to the rates of duty leviable on the under-mentioned articles when imported into the Commonwealth:—

Articles, and how classed.	Rate of Duty.
"Near kid"—	
As leather, n.e.i.	15 % *ad val.*
Moatanin and soluble fluorides and preparations of soluble fluorides—	
As sulphites and bisulphites of potassium, sodium, calcium and magnesium	20 % "

Drawbacks.

The same issue of the "Gazette" contains the following notice issued on 31st December, 1904, in accordance with the Customs Regulation No. 131 respecting drawbacks:—

"Drawback may be allowed in terms of the Customs regulations on the under-mentioned imported material used in the manufacture of articles within the Commonwealth upon the exportation of such

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manufactured article, and subject to the conditions specified hereunder:—

Rice ground within the Commonwealth.
Rice dressed " "

Provided that before drawback shall be allowed the Collector shall be absolutely satisfied that the drawback claimed is properly due."

NEW ZEALAND.

Customs Decisions.

Copies of the "New Zealand Gazette" for 8th, 15th, and 22nd December last have been received, containing Commissioner's Orders (Nos. 758-760) giving Customs decisions respecting the rates of duty leviable on various articles imported into New Zealand.

The following are the principal decisions given in these Orders:—

Articles, and how classed.	Rates of Duty.
ORDER No. 758.	
Bamboo bracelets or bangles, silver mounted—	
As fancy goods	20 % *ad val.*
Box-irons, laundry—	
As hardware	20 % "
Dental rubber (unvulcanised) for making artificial gums—	
As n.o.e.	Free
Electric lighters, for attaching to gas lamps—	
As parts of lamps	20 % *ad val.*
Leather known as "skirt" leather, for making saddle flaps—	
As leather, n.o.e.	1*d.* per lb.
Machine pump for woollen mills, if supported by declaration as to its use—	
As machinery for woollen mills	5 % *ad val.*
*Machines, hand-numbering—	
As printing machines	5 % "
String net bags—	
As fancy goods	20 % "
Traps, rat and mouse—	
As hardware	20 % "
ORDER No. 759.	
Spirits of lavender—	
As perfumed spirits	30*s.* per liquid gall.
Spirits of lemon and tincture of lemon—	
As essences, flavouring, spirituous	16*s.* " "
ORDER No. 760.	
Bells, church or school and fire-bells—	
As manufactures, n.o.e., of metal	20 % *ad val.*
Broilers and grillers of wire, and coat-hangers of wire for stretching garments—	
As hardware	20 % "
Machines, mangling and washing, driven by power (other than hand)—	
As machinery, n.o.e.	20 % "
*Machines for making stereo-plates—	
As metal-worker's machine tools	Free

* Revised decision.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

NEW ZEALAND—*continued.*

Articles, and how classed.	Rates of Duty.
"Pearline" (crude potash mixed with turpentine), a printer's lye—	
As printing materials, n.o.e.	Free
Tramways cable, slot rails for—	
As tramway plant and materials, n.o.e.	20 % *ad val.*
Umbrellas, rubber rings for—	
As minor articles, &c....	Free
Wheelbarrows—	
As hardware	20 % *ad val.*

Duty on "Tartaraline."

In the "Gazette" for 22nd December last a Governor's Order (No. 170) appeared, in which it is notified that from 14th December last, a duty of 1*d.* per lb. will be imposed upon "tartaraline" (being a substitute for cream of tartar) when imported into the Colony.

BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

Liquor Ordinance, 1904.

A copy of the "British Central Africa Gazette" for 31st December last has been received, containing a copy of the "Liquor Ordinance, 1904" (No. 6 of 1904), which was enacted by H.M. Commissioner for the British Central Africa Protectorate on 31st December, 1904.

The present Ordinance provides that distilled and alcoholic liquors may only be admitted for the use of the non-native population.

No person shall import any distilled or alcoholic liquors into the Protectorate for the purposes of sale without a licence, which may be granted by the Commissioner upon such terms as he may prescribe. Such liquors may be imported without licence if for consumption by the importer.

A duty of 12*s.* per proof gallon will be leviable upon all distilled liquors which are imported for sale, consumption or use in the Protectorate, and a duty of ten per cent. *ad valorem* upon wines, beers and other fermented alcoholic liquors.

In the same number of the "Gazette" a Proclamation is issued notifying that the following fees imposed under the above Ordinance will be in force as from 1st January, 1905:—

	£	s.	d.
Annual licence to import alcoholic liquors ...	10	0	0
" " sell " " ...	30	0	0
Licence to sell beers, spirits and wine away from licensed premises per day for every day, not exceeding six days	0	2	6
Permit to remove alcoholic liquors from bond (for each consignment)	0	2	6

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

SPAIN.

Rate of Exchange for Adjustment of Customs Duties payable in Gold.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 16th February publishes a Royal Order notifying that the average rate of exchange (premium of exchange on Paris) during the first fortnight of February was 31·35 per cent., and that the corresponding reduction in payment of duties which have to be made in gold during the second fortnight of the present month will be 24 per cent.

ITALY.

Forthcoming Tariff Alterations (*continued from p.* 320 *of last week's "Journal."*)

Tariff No.	Description of Articles.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs. At present.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs. From 1st July.
		Lire cts.	Lire cts.
115 (*a*)	Cotton tissues, printed— Weighing 7 kilogs. or more, but less than 13 kilogs. per 100 square metres— (1) Handkerchiefs, foulards, veils, shawls, plain (smooth, twilled, and crepe), having in warp and weft in the square of 5 mm.—		
	27 elementary threads or less	Crepe 310 00 Other 146 90	90 00
	More than 27, but not more than 38 elementary threads	Crepe 310 00 Other 160 10	100 00
	(2) Other	Duty on bleached + 66 lire 50 cts. per 100 kilogs.	No change.
(*b*)	Other	Duty on bleached + 70 lire per 100 kilogs.	"
116	Cotton tissues [unbleached*] figured or damasked	Duty on plain tissues + 20 lire per 100 kilogs.	"
117	Cotton tissues [unbleached*] brocaded ...	Duty on non-brocaded tissues + 40 lire per 100 kilogs.	"

* Added in new treaty.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ITALY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Description of Articles.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs. At present.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs. From 1st July.
		Lire cts.	Lire cts.
Ad 117 and 119 (*f*)	*Note.*—"Brocaded" tissues are those having designs formed by the introduction of a thread belonging neither to warp nor to weft, and superimposed in some way upon the groundwork tissue at the moment of manufacture. The design can therefore be removed by means of scissors without impairing the substance of the tissue; unlike figured or damasked tissues, where the design cannot be removed without picking the tissue to pieces.		
118	Tissues, embroidered*:		
‖ (*a*)	In Chain-stitch:		
	(1) Curtains [and blinds†] of tulle ...	520 00	470 00
	(2) Curtains [and blinds†] with application of tulle, [unbleached†], bleached, coloured, or dyed	470 00‡	420 00
	(3) Other	Duty on the tissue + 150 lire per 100 kilogs.	Conventional duty on the tissue + 100 lire per 100 kilogs.
(*b*)	In Lock-stitch:		
	(1) Tissues included under Nos. 112-7, imported by the yard (bands and insertions, flounces, galloons, joined or not, with or without applications and the like); pocket-handkerchiefs, with or without monograms; "chemical lace"¶	Various rates; *average*, about 385 lire.	300 00
	(2) Tissues included under Nos. 112-7 imported in the form of articles of definite shape and dimensions, for the making-up of articles of clothing (lengths for dresses, for skirts, or for blouses; collars, neckties, sleeves, aprons, caps, fichus, &c.) without needlework	Various rates; *average* about 385 00	300 00§

* *See* note to "embroidered tissues" under No. 95 (*f*).

† Added in new treaty.

‡ According to the "Repertorio" to the Italian tariff, cotton *muslin* curtains with applications of tulle are at present dutiable at the following rates per 100 kilogs.: unbleached, 400 lire; bleached, 440 lire; coloured or dyed, 435 lire.

‖ Articles included under No. 118 (*a*) are so included even when the design in chain-stitch is completed in places by a lock-stitch or "spider's web" (*Spachtel*) or open-work pattern, not having the effect of changing the fundamental character of the article or its employment.

¶ Chemical lace (*dentelles chimiques, broderies aériennes*) of cotton is entitled to conventional treatment under this heading, even if a ground tissue of cotton (even cotton tulle) is visible in parts of the interior of the design.

§ Articles included under No. 118 (*b*) 2 with hems of any kind, needlework, or applications (even applications sewn on to the ground tissue), or with open-work portions, made either by machine or by hand, as well as the articles of clothing for the making-up of which they are intended (dresses, skirts, blouses, collars, neckties, &c.) finished and ready for immediate use, are subject to a surtax of 25 per cent. in addition to the conventional duty. [The present "making-up surtax" on these articles is 40 per cent.]

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ITALY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Description of Articles.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs. At present.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs. From 1st July.
118 *cont.*		Lire cts.	Lire cts.
(*c*)	Cotton tulles, embroidered, not elsewhere mentioned	From 600 to 750 lire	550 00
	Muslins, open-woven tissues (*tessuti graticolati*), and veilings—		
119 (*a*)	Unbleached [plain*]	200 00	No change.
(*b*)	Bleached [plain, figured, damasked, brocaded*]	Duty on unbleached + 20 per cent.	"
(*c*)	In colours or dyed [plain, figured, damasked, brocaded*]	Duty on unbleached + 35 lire per 100 kilogs.	"
(*d*)	Printed [plain, figured, damasked, brocaded*]	Duty on bleached + 70 lire per 100 kilogs.	"
(*e*)	[Unbleached,*] figured	Duty on plain + 20 lire per 100 kilogs.	"
(*f*)	[Unbleached,*] brocaded	Duty on non-brocaded + 40 lire per 100 kilogs.	"
† (*g*)	Embroidered—		
	(1) Chain-stitch	Duty on tissue + 175 lire per 100 kgs.	Conventional duty on tissue + 120 lire per 100 kgs.
	(2) Lock-stitch	Duty on tissue + 275 lire per 100 kgs.	No change.
Ex 126	Plaits and strips for hats, of gummed cotton threads, even with warp of cotton threads	150 00	65 00
Ad 126	*Note.*—Cotton yarns, unbleached, of multiple twist, composed of more than two elementary single-twist yarns, are dutiable at the inclusive single rate of 80‡ lire per 100 kilogs, if their total thickness does not exceed 1 mm.		
Ad 128 (*b*)	*Note.*—Shawls of pure cotton tissue, even if dry-stamped on the borders, with woollen fringes composed of threads traversing the borders of the tissue.	Conventional duty on the tissue + 10 per cent. for the fringes and 20 per cent. for the needlework.	Conventional duty on the tissue + 10 per cent. for the needlework.
129 *Ex* (*c*)	Sewn articles of cotton— Swiss jackets of *crêpe de santé*	360 00	100 00
Ad 129 (*c*)	*Note.*—The needlework surtax for the simple application of a frilled flounce to the borders of curtains or other embroidered articles included under No. 118 (*a*), 1 to 3, is reduced to 10 per cent. §		

* Added in new treaty.

† *See* general note to No. 95 (*f*).

‡ Under the existing treaty the corresponding duty is 100 lire. This duty is equally applicable to such yarns when bleached, dyed, &c.

§ 40 per cent. in present conventional tariff.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ITALY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Description of Articles.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs. At present.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs. From 1st July.
		Lire cts.	Lire cts.
Ad 129, 150, & 168	*General Note.*—The dispositions of Art. 21 of the "Repertorio" to the tariff, are applicable to shaped hosiery, made-up, and to Swiss jackets of *crêpe de santé.* *		
130 (*e*)	Artificial wool—		
	(1) Not dyed	8 00	No change.
	(2) Dyed	8 00	"
	Note.—Rags prepared for the manufacture of artificial wool, of all kinds, coloured or not	Free	"
136 (*a*)	Yarns of combed wool, single—		
	Unbleached, measuring per kilog.—		
	(1) Up to 50,000 metres	60 00	"
	(2) More than 50,000 metres ...	75 00	"
(*c*)	Dyed	Duty on unbleached + 25 lire per 100 kilogs.	"
137	Yarns of combed wool, twisted	Duty on single yarns + 17 lire per 100 kgs.	"
Ex 138 (*a*)	Woven felts for the manufacture of wood or straw pulp, cellulose, and paper, without distinction of weight	125 00	110 00
Ex 138 (*b*) 3	Camels'-hair belts, impregnated or not ...	190 00	100 00
138 (*e*)	Woollen tissues, embroidered—†		
	(1) Chain-stitch	Duty on the tissue + 200 lire per 100 kilogs.	Conventional duty on the tissue + 150 lire per 100 kilogs.
	(2) Lock-stitch	Duty on the tissue + 300 lire per 100 kilogs.	Conventional duty on the tissue + 200 lire per 100 kilogs.
Ex 150	Swiss jackets of *crêpe de santé*‡	337 50	225 00
Ad 150	*Note.*—The needlework surtax on woollen shawls woven or knitted, printed or not, even furnished with fringes, is reduced to 10 per cent. [20 per cent. under existing conventional tariff].		

* These dispositions provide that articles of underclothing and made-up articles pay the duty applicable to the most heavily taxed material only when that material covers more than 10 per cent. of the surface of the made-up article; otherwise such articles are dutiable according to the *predominant* material, with the addition of the needlework surtax.

The present duties on made-up hosiery are (in lire per 100 kilogs.): cotton, 225; wool, 330; silk, pure, 1,200; mixed silk, 750. The making-up surtax (payable when the needlework involves more than the mere stitching together or folding over of the edges of the articles) is: wool, 35 per cent.; cotton, silk, or half-silk, 40 per cent.

† *See also* general note to embroidered tissues (*ad* 95 *f*).

‡ *See also* general note to made-up hosiery and *crêpe de santé* jackets (*ad* 129).

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ITALY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Description of Articles.	Rate of Duty per kilog. At present.	Rate of Duty per kilog. From 1st July.
		Per kilog. Lire. cts.	Per kilog. Lire. cts.
153	Silk (except artificial silk), wound, single, thrown or twisted*—		
(a)	Raw	Free.	No change.
(b)	Dyed	0 50	"
155	Sewing thread, of silk or floss silk, on reels, in balls, or otherwise prepared for retail sale	2 00	" †
156	Tissues of silk or floss silk‡—		
(a)	Black	Plain 6 00 Figd. 9 00	4 00
(b)	Coloured—		
	(1) Fichus, scarves, veils ...	Plain 6 50 Figd. 9 00	3 50
	Persians, printed tissues, tissues with printed warp ...	Plain 7 00 Figd. 10 00	3 50
	(2) Other	Plain 7 00 Figd. 10 00	4 50
(c)	Net tissues (veilings)	Plain 9 00 Figd. 12 00	4 50
(d)	Bolting cloth—		
	(1) Not made up...	7 00	2 00‖
	(2) Made up	9 80	1 00‖
157	Mixed tissues containing silk in a proportion of not less than 12 per cent. and not more than 50 per cent.—‡		
(a)	Black—		
	(1) Plain	4 00	No change.
	(2) Figured	6 50	4 00
(b)	Coloured—		
	(1) Plain	5 00	4 00
	(2) Figured	7 50	5 00
159	Embroidered tissues¶—		
(a)	Chain-stitch	Duty on tissue + 2 lire per kilog.	No change**

* During the existence of the new Treaty, the "improvement trade" in silk introduced into Switzerland from Italy to be there dyed and re-exported into Italy, will be continued.

† The duty is leviable on the *net* weight, after deduction of the reels, &c., on which the silk is wound.

‡ The distinction between plain and figured tissues is abandoned in the new Treaty as regards silk tissues (*i.e.*, tissues containing more than 50 per cent. of silk) and ribbons. As regards half-silk tissues, the present Customs practice, of treating as figured only tissues woven on the Jacquard loom, will be maintained.

(As regards count of threads, *see* general note to textile categories, No. 4, "Board of Trade Journal" for 9th February, p. 271.)

‖ *Sic* in original.

¶ *See also* general notes to embroidered tissues (*ad* 95*f*).

** The 2 lire surtax is now conventionalised.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ITALY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Description of Articles.	Rate of Duty per kilog. At present.	Rate of Duty per kilog. From 1st July.
		Per kilog. Lire. cts.	Per kilog. Lire. cts.
159 (*b*)	Lock-stitch—		
	(1) Tissues included under Nos. 156 and 157, imported by the yard (bands and insertions, flounces, galloons and "motifs," with the ends joined or not, with or without applications, and the like); pocket-handkerchiefs, with or without monograms	Duty on the tissue + 3 lire per kilog.‖	6 50
	(2) Chemical lace (*dentelles chimiques, broderies aeriennes*), even if a ground tissue of any material (even tulle) is visible in parts of the interior of the design	18 00	6 00
	§(3) Tissues included under Nos. 156 and 157, imported in the form of articles of determinate shape and dimensions, for the manufacture of articles of clothing (lengths for dresses, skirts, or blouses; collars, neckties, sleeves, aprons, caps, fichus, &c.) without needlework	Duty on the tissue + 3 lire per kilog.‖	6 50
(*c*)	Embroidered silk tulles, not elsewhere mentioned	†	12 00
164	Ribbons*—		
(*a*)	Of silk or floss-silk—		
	(1) Black	Plain 10 00 Figd. 13 00	8 00
	(2) Coloured	Plain 11 00 Figd. 14 00	9 00
	(3) Netted	Various rates from 10 to 14 lire.	9 00
(*b*)	Of mixed tissue, containing silk or floss silk in a portion of at least 12 per cent., and at most 50 per cent.—		
	(1) Black	Plain 6 00 Figd. 8 50	5 00
	(2) Coloured	Plain 7 00 Figd. 9 50	6 00
Ex 165	Plaits and strips for hats, of gummed silk threads, even with warp of cotton or hair threads, combined or not with threads of ramie, hair, or metal	Mostly dutiable as "ribbons."	2 00
Ex 168‡	Swiss jackets of *crêpe de santé*, of silk or floss silk, pure or mixed with other textile materials	22 50	5 00

* *See* note to No. 156, as regards distinction between plain and figured ribbons.

† Embroidered in chain-stitch, 17 lire per 100 kilogs.; in lock-stitch, 18 lire per 100 kilogs.

‡ *See also* general note to Nos. 129, 150, and 168 (*ad* No. 129).

‖ The actual duty paid on silk tissues with lock-stitch embroideries is about 12 lire 50 cts.

§ Articles included under No. 159 (*b*) 3, with hems of all kinds, needlework, or *appliqué* work, even with *appliqué* work sewn on to the groundwork tissue, or with open-work portions, made either by machine or hand, as well as the articles of clothing for the manufacture of which they are intended (dresses, skirts, blouses, collars, neckties, &c.) finished and ready for immediate wear, pay a surtax of 25 per cent. in addition to the conventional duty. [The surtax is 40 per cent. in the existing conventional tariff.]

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ITALY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Description of Articles.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs. At present.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs. From 1st July.
		Lire. cts.	Lire. cts.
Ad 168	*Note.*—Needlework surtax for handkerchiefs, flounces, and other similar articles, embroidered, merely hemmed	40 % of duty	50 00
Ex 176 (*a*) (2)	Children's chairs, of common wood, even with nails or hinges, or with fittings of common metal	13 00	No change
Ex 178	Framed slates, ruled or not	Unruled 6 00 Ruled 13 00	4 00
Ex 178	Spindles and bobbins, of common or of cabinet-makers' wood, composed or not of woods of several kinds, rough, polished, painted, varnished, &c., even with metal fittings	8 00	7 00
Ex 183 (*a*)	Ships and boats for internal navigation on lakes and rivers (may be imported in parts, either in one or in several consignments)	Free.	Free.
Ex 186	Plaits, galloons, and similar articles, of straw, bark, esparto, palm fibres, or shavings, for making or trimming hats, even if mixed with horsehair, cotton, hemp, or ramie, in a proportion less than 50 per cent., or with silk in a proportion less than 12 per cent.	(Mostly) 10 00	10 00
Ex 188	Hats of straw or of palm fibres, bark, esparto, wood shavings, or other similar substances, not trimmed	Per 100 25 00	No change.
190	Wood pulp—		
(*a*)	Cellulose	Free.	"
(*b*)	Other—		
	Wet (including at least 50 per cent. of water)	0 50	
	Dry	1 00	
Ex 191	Paper, white or dyed in the pulp—		
(*a*)	2. Ruled	20 00	17 50
	3. Envelopes	25 00	22 50
193	Prints, engravings, and labels of all kinds [(lithographs, chromos, chromotypes, heliogravures, phototypes, photographs, &c.), with or without scalloped or serrated edges, on paper or cardboard, black or in colours, even gold or silver, or decorated with gold or silver, varnished or not*] ...	75 00	No change.
196	Books—		
(*a*)	Printed—		
	(1) In Italian, in loose sheets or simply stitched	15 00	12 50
	(2) In other languages [or with mixed text, Italian and other languages*] in loose sheets or simply stitched	Free.	No change.
	(3) Bound in any manner†—		
	Books of devotion...	20 00	15 00
	Other books	20 00	20 00

* Words in square brackets added in new Treaty.

† Bound books included under No. 196 may have ornaments of common metal, even gilt or silvered, without any addition being made to the duty on that account. [At present books bound in ivory, tortoiseshell, mother-of-pearl, &c., or with ornaments of precious metals, pay 150 lire per 100 kilogs.].

Cardboard cases (even covered with paper) containing bound books, are dutiable at the conventional rates applicable to the books they contain. [At present dutiable at the rate of 70 lire per 100 kilogs.].

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ITALY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Description of Articles.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs. At present.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs. From 1st July.
	Books—*cont.*		
(*b*)	Not printed (registers)—	Lire cts.	Lire cts.
	(1) In loose sheets or bound in cardboard, even with corners and backs of cloth	22 00	No change.
	Ex (2) Bound in cardboard covered with cloth, even with corners and backs of leather	56 00	"
Ex 199	Hides and skins—		
Ex (*c*)	Tanned without the hair and unfinished—		
	(2) Other than sheepskin and goat-skin, [entire*]	25 00	"
Ex (*d*)	Tanned without the hair and finished—		
	(3) Other than glove leather (kid or lambskin) or than sole leather	70 00	"
Ex 205	Cork soles, even covered with tissues, hemmed or bordered; and felt soles ...	Not stated.	40 00
206	Leather transmission belts, finished [and sewn*]...	85 00	No change.
Ex 211	Cast-iron—		
Ex (*b*)	Rough castings—		
	Ex (1) Radiators, heating pipes, and boilers, for heating, of cast-iron, even with decorations formed in the casting	8 00	6 00
	Ex (2) Articles other than for furniture or for household use or ornament, [weighing ½ kilog. and upwards*]	5 00	No change.
Ex (*c*)	Castings, planed, turned, or otherwise wrought—		
	Ex (2) Articles other than for furniture or for domestic use or ornament, [weighing ½ kilog. and upwards*]	7 00	"
Ex (*d*)(1)	Cooking stoves and gas heating-apparatus, of cast-iron, even with fittings of other metals	18 00	13 00
Ex 217 (*b*)	Hinges of iron, simply wrought	10 00	10 00
Ex 218	Iron and steel of second manufacture—		
Ex (*b*) (2)	Healds or heddles of steel, and heddle-reeds fitted with steel heddles, even tinned, zinced, or nickelled	17 25†	17 25
Ex (*b*) (3)	Cans for carrying milk, &c., and milk pans, tinned	17 25	14 00
Ad (*b*) (4)	*Note.*—The duty on household vessels and utensils of enamelled iron is not to be raised above 35 lire per 100 kilogs.		
Ex 219	Steel springs for weaving looms, even zinced, nickelled, tinned, or coppered‡	18 00	14 00
222 (*c*)	Files and rasps having a length (not including the handle)—		
	(1) Exceeding 30 cm.	13 00	No change.
	(2) From 15 to 30 cm.	15 00	"
	(3) Less than 15 cm.	20 00	"

* Words in square brackets added in new treaty.

† If nickelled, 30 lire.

‡ Such springs are to be dutiable at the 14 lire rate even when they are capable of being used for other purposes.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

Denunication of Commercial Treaties with Russia, Belgium and Servia.

The semi-official Austrian "Fremden-Blatt" for the 8th inst. states that the Commercial Treaties now in existence between Austria-Hungary, Russia, Belgium, and Servia have been denounced by the first-named State, and that they will consequently expire on the 15th February, 1906.

HAITI.

Revised Customs Tariff.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy of a revised edition of the Customs Tariff and Customs Regulations of Haiti, which has recently been published by the Haitian Government.

The Tariff has been entirely re-cast, and the wording thereof altered in many particulars. The actual rates of duty, however, do not appear to have been altered to any great extent. The following are among the alterations of most importance to British trade :—

Articles.	Rate of Duty according to					
	Old Tariff.			New Tariff.		
		Gourde*	cts.		Gourde*	cts.
Casimir of wool or cotton, twilled, full width or less	(Wool)	0	15	Ell	0	20
	(Wool and cotton)	0	12			
Crêpe, broad	Ell	0	06	„	0	08
Cotton drill, fine, 30 inches or less ...	„	0	04	„	0	04
„ ordinary, 30 inches or less...	„	0	03			
Cotton or cotton and linen trouserings, up to 30 inches	Various rates.			„	0	04
Flannel, 30 inches and less	Ell	0	06	„	0	08
Muslin, 26 inches and upwards	„ (?)	0	06	„	0	05
Oxford, from 26 to 30 inches	„	0	04	„	0	03
„ above 30 inches	Not stated.			„	0	04
Percale (cambric), fine and ordinary, 30 inches and less	Ell	0	06	„	0	06
Percale (cambric), very common, 30 inches and less	„	0	04			
Siam croisé (grey domestics), up to 30 inches	„ (?)	0	01½	„	0	02½
Handkerchiefs, imitation Madras... ...	Dozen	0	30	Dozen	0	50
„ of muslin (organdi), white or coloured	„	0	37	„	0	50
Towels	Not stated.			„	1	00
Iron nails	110 lbs.	0	75	110 lbs.	1	00

NOTE.—Ell = 44 inches.

* The nominal value of the gourde is 4*s.* 2*d.*

The duties stated in the table have to be increased by surtaxes of 50 per cent. and 33⅓ per cent., and by a further surtax of (levied in American gold) 25 per cent. levied *in gold* on the aggregate duties leviable (*i.e.*, tariff duties + the two surtaxes already mentioned).

A copy of the revised Tariff may be seen by persons interested on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

Sea-carriage of Goods Act, 1904.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Colonial Office, a copy of an Act relating to the sea-carriage of goods (No. 14 of 1904) which was assented to by the Commonwealth Government on 15th December last, and came into force on 1st January, 1905.

The Act only applies in relation to ships carrying goods from any place in Australia to any place outside Australia, or from one State to another State, and in relation to goods so carried, or received, to be so carried, in those ships.

The Act does not apply to any bill of lading or document made before the 30th June, 1905, in pursuance of a contract or document entered into before 17th November, 1904.

The following clauses are prohibited from insertion in any bill of lading or document:—

(*a*) Whereby the owner, charterer, master or agent of any ship, or the ship itself, is relieved from liability for loss or damage to goods arising from the harmful or improper condition of the ship's hold, or any other part of the ship in which goods are carried, or arising from negligence, fault, or failure in the proper loading, stowage, custody, care, or delivery of goods received by them or any of them to be carried in or by the ship; or

(*b*) Whereby any obligations of the owner or charterer of any ship to exercise due diligence, and to properly man, equip and supply the ship, to make and keep the ship seaworthy, and to make and keep the ship's hold, refrigerating and cool chambers, and all other parts of the ship in which goods are carried fit and safe for their reception, carriage, and preservation, are in any way lessened, weakened or avoided; or

(*c*) Whereby the obligations of the master, officers, agents, or servants of any ship to carefully handle and stow goods, and to care for, preserve, and properly deliver them, are in anywise lessened, weakened or avoided.

The Act also provides that—

(1) In every bill of lading with respect to goods, a warranty shall be implied that the ship shall be, at the beginning of the voyage, seaworthy in all respects and properly manned, equipped, and supplied.

(2) In every bill of lading with respect to goods, unless the contrary intention appears, a clause shall be implied whereby, if the ship is at the beginning of the voyage seaworthy in all respects and properly manned, equipped, and supplied, neither the ship nor the owner, master, agent, or charterer shall be responsible for damage to or loss of the goods resulting from:—

(*a*) Faults or errors in navigation;

(*b*) Perils of the sea or navigable waters;

(*c*) Acts of God or the King's enemies;

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Shipping and Transport.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—*continued.*

(*d*) The inherent defect, quality, or vice of the goods;

(*e*) The insufficiency of package of the goods;

(*f*) The seizure of the goods under legal process;

(*g*) Any act of omission of the shipper or owner of the goods, his agent or representative;

(*h*) Saving or attempting to save life or property at sea; or

(*i*) Any deviation in saving or attempting to save life or property at sea.

Revised Scale of Wharfage Charges at Ports in Victoria.

The "Victoria Government Gazette" of 23rd November, 1904, publishes a revised scale of wharfage charges payable on the import of produce and merchandise at ports in the State of Victoria outside the port of Melbourne.

The "Journal of Commerce" (Melbourne) of 3rd January publishes a similar scale of charges, adopted and ordered by the Melbourne Harbour Trust, and approved by the Governor in Council, which is to be enforced at the port of Melbourne.

The "Gazette" and "Journal" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

COSTA RICA.

Agreement between the Government and the Costa Rica Railway.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office, from H.M. Consul at San José (Mr. F. Nutter Cox), forwarding translation of a Decree, ratified by Congress on 28th December, 1904, embodying the terms of an agreement made between the Government of Costa Rica and the Costa Rica Railway Company.

The Government reserve the right to construct, for their account and whenever convenient, any piers at Limon, or to authorise others to construct them. The Company may freely construct new piers which, like the present one, will be regarded as their own property.

The Company admit the right of the Government to grant concessions for the construction of new lines throughout the district served by the railway without allowing them to exercise first option in such cases, and therefore withdraw their opposition to the concession for a line between Limon and Banana River, granted to Messrs. Schutt, Hoadley & Co., of New York, and to that granted to the Tropical Trading and Transport Company for the branch line called "La Luisa."

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Shipping and Transport.

The Government grant to the Company, for the term of 25 years, the right to develop, by branch lines, a tract of waste lands within certain specified boundaries.

The Company undertake to construct branch lines opening up lands suitable for the cultivation of bananas, at the rate of not less than 8 kilom. per annum, commencing such works within two years from the date of the ratification of the Decree by Congress. The Company are granted exemption from export taxes on bananas for a term of ten years.

The translation may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

MINERALS, METALS, AND MACHINERY.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Output of Mines.

The following tables, showing the output of coal and other minerals in the United Kingdom at mines worked under the Coal and Metalliferous Mines Regulations Acts during the year 1904, with comparative figures for the preceding year, are extracted from an advance proof (subject to correction) of the Mines and Quarries General Report and Statistics for 1904, copy of which has been received at the Board of Trade from the Home Office :—

I.—Output of Minerals under the Coal Mines Regulations Acts.

—	1903.	1904.
	Tons.	Tons.
Barytes	—	4,459
Coal	230,324,295	232,411,784
Clay and shale other than fire-clay and oil shale...	219,018	272,349
Fire-clay	3,066,835	3,043,045
Igneous rock	2,646	804
Iron pyrites	6,900	7,511
Ironstone	7,473,236	7,557,733
Limestone	38,514	37,569
Oil shale	2,009,602	2,333,062
Sandstone (including "Ganister")...	102,540	106,995*
Total	243,243,586	245,775,315

* The quantity of ganister obtained was 91,868 tons.

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

II.—Output of Minerals under Metalliferous Mines Regulation Act.

—	1903.	1904.
	Tons.	Tons.
Barytes...	23,671	21,130
Clay and shale...	112,848	115,892
Gold ore	28,600	23,208
Gypsum...	176,980	195,665
Igneous rocks	90,236	94,255
Iron ore...	1,605,148	1,603,855
Lead ore	26,355	26,371
Limestone	573,011	510,828
Rock salt	167,769	187,828
Sandstone	183,520	192,284†
Slate	164,278	168,278
Zinc ore...	24,888	27,655
Other minerals	66,329	79,092
Total	3,243,633	3,246,336

† Including 2,668 tons of ganister.

It must be borne in mind that the above figures do not in all cases represent the total production of minerals during the year. Large quantities of several important minerals such as iron ore, limestone, sandstone, slate, clay, &c., are obtained from quarries under the Quarries Act, and from other open workings, the returns from which are not yet available. The totals for coal and the ores of copper, lead, and zinc may, however, be regarded as substantially complete.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—TASMANIA.

Mineral Production.

With reference to the table published on p. 317 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 17th November last, the following figures, showing the production of minerals in Tasmanian mines during the quarter ended 30th September, 1904, have been received from Mr. E. A. Nowell, Clerk of the Executive and Legislative Council of Tasmania:—

—	Quarter ended 30th September, 1904.	
	Quantity.	Value.
	Ozs.	£
Gold (fine)	16,755	71,170
	Tons.	
Silver-lead ore	14,237	58,991
Blister copper	2,044	138,685
Tin ore	869	66,798
Iron ore	2,000	800
Coal	30,890	17,757
Flux ore	3,133	1,523
Total value... £	—	355,724

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

The foregoing are official figures supplied by the Government Geologist, and he explains that in consequence of the Commonwealth having ceased to compile returns of ore exported, it is not possible to compare these figures with those for the previous periods.

CAPE COLONY.

Export of Diamonds in 1904.

The following particulars of the export of diamonds from Cape Colony to the United Kingdom and other countries during the year ended 31st December, 1904, as compared with the preceding year, have been received from the Agent-General for the Cape of Good Hope:—

Destination.	1903.		1904.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Carats.	£	Carats.	£
United Kingdom	2,656,587	5,382,517	2,582,096	5,361,797
Other countries	38,031	90,173	49,782	158,946
Total	2,694,618	5,472,690	2,631,878	5,520,743

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Production of Pig-iron in 1904.

The American Iron and Steel Association have received from the manufacturers statistics of the production of all kinds of pig-iron in the United States in 1904.

According to the "Bulletin" of the Association for the 1st February, the total production was 16,497,033 tons against 18,009,252 tons in 1903, 17,821,307 tons in 1902, and 15,878,354 tons in 1901. The following table gives in half-yearly periods the production of pig-iron in the last four years:—

Periods.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
First half	7,674,613	8,808,574	9,707,367	8,173,438
Second half	8,203,741	9,012,733	8,301,885	8,323,595
Total	15,878,354	17,821,307	18,009,252	16,497,033

The chief pig-iron producing States in 1904 were Pennsylvania, 7,644,321 tons; Ohio, 2,977,929; Illinois, 1,655,991, and Alabama, 1,453,513 tons.

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

Of the total iron produced last year, 14,931,364 tons were made with bituminous coal and coke as fuel; 1,228,140 tons with anthracite and mixed anthracite and coke, and 337,529 tons with charcoal.

The division according to classes of iron made in 1903 and 1904 was as follows—

—	1903.	1904.
	Tons.	Tons.
Foundry and forge iron	5,785,957	4,695,824
Bessemer pig	9,989,908	9,098,659
Basic pig	2,040,726	2,483,104
Spiegeleisen and ferromanganese	192,661	219,446
Total	18,009,252	16,497,033

The stocks of pig-iron which were unsold in the hands of manufacturers or which were under their control at the close of 1904, and were not intended for their own consumption, amounted to 408,792 tons, against 591,438 tons at the close of 1903.

The whole number of furnaces in blast on 31st December, 1904, was 261, against 182 on 31st December, 1903.

BRAZIL.

Measures for the Development of Coal Mines.

The "Diario Official" of 28th January publishes a Decree, authorising the Minister of Industry, Railways, and Public Works to expend 250,000 milreis (about 12,583*l.*) on surveys and other works in connection with the development of the coal mines of Brazil.

CHINA.

Gold Discovery in Shantung.

See p. 347 for a notice relative to the discovery of gold in the Province of Shantung.

AGRICULTURE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Corn Prices.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 18th February, 1905, were as follow:—

Wheat	30*s.*	5*d.*
Barley	25*s.*	2*d.*
Oats	16*s.*	9*d.*

For further particulars see p. 380.

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Agriculture.

UNITED KINGDOM—*continued.*

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

A statement is published on p. 381, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 18th February, 1905, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1904.

FRANCE—INDO-CHINA.

Export of Rice from Saigon in 1904.

According to a statement published in the "Dépêche Coloniale" of 15th February, the exports of rice from Saigon during 1904 amounted to 875,675 tons, as compared with 589,233 tons in 1903, an increase of 286,442 tons; 232,180 tons were exported to France, 245,222 tons to Hong Kong, and 176,108 tons to the Philippines, as compared respectively with 87,665 tons, 197,433 tons, and 203,217 tons in the preceding year.

SPANISH WEST AFRICA.

Exploitation of Spanish Colonies in West Africa.

See p. 344 for reference to an announcement relative to the submission of tenders for the exploitation, by private companies, of the whole or part of the Spanish West African Possessions.

MISCELLANEOUS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

State of the Labour Market in January, 1905.

A report published in the "Labour Gazette"* of 16th February, based on 4,422 returns, viz.: 3,060 from Employers, or their Associations, 1,294 from Trade Unions, and 68 from other sources, states that employment in January was better than in December. There was some improvement in the shipbuilding industry, the engineering trades (especially in the shipbuilding centres), and the pig iron, coal mining and boot and shoe trades. The cotton and tinplate trades continue to be fully employed.

As compared with a year ago employment in most trades showed some improvement, especially the cotton, woollen, pig iron, tinplate and iron and steel industries. In the building, printing and furnishing trades there has, however, been no recovery.

In the 270 Trade Unions, with an aggregate membership of 578,910, making returns, 39,315 (or 6·8 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of January, 1905, as compared with 7·6 per cent. in December, 1904, and 6·7 per cent. at the end of of January, 1904.

* For list of principal contents of the "Labour Gazette," see p. 382.

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Miscellaneous.

UNITED KINGDOM—*continued.*

Fishery Statistics, January, 1905.

The following statement shows the quantity and value of fish landed on the English and Welsh, Scotch, and Irish Coasts during the month of January, 1905, compared with the corresponding period of the year 1904:—

	January, 1905.		January, 1904.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
England and Wales—	Cwts.	£	Cwts.	£
Fish, excluding shell fish... ...	477,003	452 393	*548,282*	*435,808*
Shell fish	—	19,089	—	*19,808*
Total value...	—	471,482	—	*455,616*
Scotland—				
Fish, excluding shell fish... ...	280,328	137,402	*325,104*	*155,612*
Shell fish	—	4,231	—	*4,486*
Total value...	—	141,633	—	*160,098*
Ireland—				
Fish, excluding shell fish... ...	18,068	9,935	*24,016*	*11,037*
Shell fish	—	635	—	*560*
Total value...	—	10,570	—	*11,597*

NOTE.—All the above figures are subject to correction in the Annual Returns.

Cotton Statistics.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 16th February, 1905, was 94,563 (including 22 bales British West African), and the number imported during the 7 weeks ended the 16th February was 792,332. As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 16th February, 1905, 6,832 bales and for the 7 weeks, 86,170.

For further details see p. 380.

CAPE COLONY.

Proposed Amendment of Fisheries Law.

The "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" of 31st January publishes the text of a Bill to amend the Law relating to fisheries, and to provide for the safeguarding of the fishing industry within Cape Colony and the protection of certain fish.

The "Gazette" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

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Miscellaneous.

FRANCE—SENEGAL.

Brest—Dakar Cable.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul at Dakar (Capt. C. F. Cromie) reporting that the Brest—Dakar cable was announced to be inaugurated on the 2nd February, the cable being landed at Yof Bay instead of Dakar itself, and the land line from Dakar to the former place used for the present.

SPAIN.

Palm-Leaf Hat Trust of Malaga.

The United States Consul at Malaga in a recent report states that palm-leaf hat exporters at Malaga, who have for years past engaged in almost daily commercial strife while purchasing hats from the rural makers, have formed a combination, with the result that one price prevails for the different grades instead of several as heretofore. The export of these hats to New York (said to be their only market) numbers between 3,000,000 and 4,000,000 a year. They are made from the narrow leaf of the palm grown in the adjacent country districts, where thousands of families are, from January to December, engaged in working the leaf into shape.

Prior to the formation of the "trust," hats were sold to the highest bidder, but under the present arrangement one house buys all of them at a fixed price and divides with other dealers. The combination pertains, however, only to the purchase of the hats, each merchant offering them to New York buyers at his own figure.

GREECE.

Rise in Exchange Value of Greek Drachma.

A despatch on the subject of the rise in the exchange value of the Greek drachma has been received at the Foreign Office from the British Delegate on the International Financial Commission at Athens (Mr. H. P. Harvey).

After noting the average course of exchange as follows:—1900, 164 drachmas; 1901, 165 dr.; 1902, 162 dr; June, 1903, 158 dr.; September, 1903, 154 dr.; December, 1903, 146 dr.; March, 1904, 143 dr.; and June, 1904, 130 dr., Mr. Harvey writes—"In July, 1904, this rapid fall was checked, and there was a certain reaction, the rate of exchange rising temporarily to 137, but falling again in October to 134, about which point it has since remained fairly steady. . . .

"In Greece there is a rigid limit to the amount of currency which may be issued; every year there is a slight contraction in the limit by the withdrawal of 2,000,000 drachmas of notes, about 1⅓ per cent. of the whole. This being insufficient to produce

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Miscellaneous.

within a few months a substantial increase in the value of the drachma, the chief causes of the recent rise must be sought in an improved balance of payments.

"They may be stated in their broad outlines with some confidence, though it is impossible to appreciate the precise share which each has had in the common result:—

"1. The good crop of 1903, and in a less degree that of 1904, largely diminished the import of cereals into Greece in the second half of 1903 as well as during 1904. Coupled with a fall in the price of wheat during part of the same period, this cause must have reduced the gold payments of Greece by some 10,000,000 fr. or 15,000,000 fr.

"2. Remittances of Greek emigrants in America introduced into Greece during 1903 sums amounting to some 20,000,000 fr. This is in the main a new feature in the balance of payments. The remittances appear, however, to have considerably diminished in 1904.

"3. The attention of French speculators has recently been turned to the industrial and banking securities of this country, and relatively large purchases have been made. The sum of 20,000,000 fr. is mentioned as representing the amount of the remittances of the last few months to this country on account of these securities, but I am unable to vouch for its correctness.

"It may here be remarked, lest it be thought that an undue importance is attached to factors which can be measured by such small sums, that the whole currency of the country—*i.e.*, the total sum of paper money whose exchange value is subject to the influence of the above factors—amounts to less than 150,000,000 dr. and . . . . constitutes the sum total of the medium of exchange available in this country, credit being practically unknown. Again, the total export trade of this country, the main item in the balance of payments, is only valued at about 80,000,000 fr. per annum, so that it is not surprising that an increase of 20,000,000 fr. in the receipts or a decrease of 10,000,000 fr. in the payments should have very appreciable consequences . . . .

"There is little doubt that the rise in exchange of the last two years, aided by the more or less temporary and exceptional conditions set forth . . . . has been in excess of that warranted by any permanent improvement in the country's economic situation and in excess of what the best interests of the country require."

MOROCCO.

Trade of Tangier and District.

In his report on the trade of Tangier and District for the year 1903 (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,322), the British Vice-Consul at Tangier (Mr. Wyldbore Smith) gives the following table to show the proportion of the trade obtained by the United Kingdom, France,

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Miscellaneous.

Spain, Germany, and Austria-Hungary at the Ports of Tangier and Laraiche:—

Country.	Imports.		Exports.	
	1902.	1903.	1902.	1903.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
United Kingdom	51¼	47	32⅛	34¼
France	25⅝	29	9¾	13¾
Spain	6	6¾	42½	37
Germany	3¾	4⅛	1	2¼
Austria-Hungary	5¼	4½	—	—

It will be seen from this table that French trade, both export and import, made more progress during the year under review than any other country.

German trade seems to be gradually retrieving its position, which is, to a great extent, owing to cheap freights on German lines and cheap handling at the German ports of discharge.

The total values of the imports and exports at the ports of Tangier, Laraiche, and Tetuan during the years 1902 and 1903 were as follow:—

Country.	Imports.		Exports.	
	1902.	1903.	1902.	1903.
	£	£	£	£
Tangier	435,714	488,984	348,790	412,980
Laraiche	339,110	777,304	51,200	54,071
	1901.		1901.	
Tetuan*	50,625	44,417	5,664	6,992

* No returns were compiled for the year 1902.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Trade of Galveston in 1904.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul at Galveston (Mr. H. D. Nugent), forwarding the following particulars of the trade of that port during 1904, as compared with the previous year:—

—	1903.	1904.
	£	£
Imports	275,465	591,405
Exports	28,633,713	25,212,510
Total	28,909,178	25,803,915

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Miscellaneous.

As regards foreign imports into Galveston no details, says Mr. Nugent, are yet to be had, but there has been a substantial increase during 1904. Trade with Mexico has been largely developed and the imports thence have correspondingly increased. They consist chiefly of sisal grass, ixtle and other fibres. Cement and rails have been the largest item from Europe, but there have also been imported considerable quantities of champagne, other wines and liquors, toys, preserved fruits and vegetables, preserved fish, crockery and glass.

BRAZIL.

Registration of Trade Marks.

With reference to the notice on p. 131 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 20th October respecting a new Law regarding the registration of trade marks in Brazil, the "Diario Official" of 27th January publishes the text of the regulations issued by the Brazilian Government for carrying that Law into effect.

The "Diario" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

URUGUAY.

Opening of Frozen Meat Establishment.

According to the "Monte Video Times" of 14th January, the "Frigorifico Uruguayo" frozen meat establishment, referred to by H.M. Consul at Monte Video in his report for 1903 (Foreign Office, Annual Series, 3,245), was opened at the beginning of the present year. The Consul remarked that the gain to Uruguay to be thus enabled to export its own frozen meat to Europe, instead of being obliged, as hitherto, to have recourse to the freezing establishments in the Argentine is obvious.

Customs Receipts.

According to the "Montevideo Times" of 10th January, the provisional figures of the Customs receipts of Uruguay for the year 1904 are 8,997,199 dols. (1,914,300*l.*) The figures for 1903 amounted to 10,317,022 dols. (2,195,111*l.*), so that last year's figures show a falling-off of 210,811*l.* This decrease, it is stated, is due to the disastrous effects of the revolution.

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STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the Week and 7 Weeks ended 16th February, 1905.

—	Week ended 16th Feb., 1905.	7 Weeks ended 16th Feb., 1905.	Week ended 16th Feb., 1905.	7 Weeks ended 16th Feb., 1905.
	Imports. (Bales.)		Exports. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American	76,502	672,508	4,995	63,681†
Brazilian	893	6,864	—	328
East Indian	1,669	11,198	898	2,958
Egyptian	13,693	85,827	795	18,772
Miscellaneous	1,806*	15,935	144	431
Total	94,563	792,332	6,832	86,170

* Including 22 bales British West African. † Corrected figures.

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 18th February, 1905, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

—	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 18th February, 1905 ...	30	5	25	2	16	9
Corresponding week in—						
1898	35	5	27	6	17	10
1899	25	7	26	7	16	11
1900	26	3	25	1	16	9
1901	26	1	25	0	17	7
1902	27	1	26	11	20	4
1903	25	4	23	4	17	1
1904	26	11	22	7	16	0

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

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Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 18th February, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

—		Week ended 18th Feb., 1905.	*Corresponding Week in 1904.*
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number.	12,772	*10,050*
Sheep and lambs	"	9,688	*8,575*
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	828	*451*
Fresh Meat :—			
Beef	Cwts.	118,082	*101,152*
Mutton	"	89,988	*70,134*
Pork	"	14,768	*13,468*
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Cwts.	132,963	*112,978*
Beef	"	3,871	*2,390*
Hams	"	24,540	*26,973*
Pork	"	5,976	*5,951*
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ...	"	11,936	*10,905*
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting...	"	14,632	*17,299*
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwts.	94,633	*76,461*
Margarine	"	23,147	*15,799*
Cheese	"	29,879	*23,738*
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	*106*
" cream	"	93	*117*
" condensed	"	21,434	*17,057*
" preserved, other kinds...	"	43	*324*
Eggs	Grt. Hundr.	195,026	*305,009*
Poultry	Value £	25,778	*46,605*
Game	"	5,858	*3,691*
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	Cwts.	2,695	*4,711*
Lard	"	35,881	*41,528*
Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—			
Wheat	Cwts.	1,558,600	*1,280,300*
Wheat meal and flour	"	195,100	*478,500*
Barley	"	375,200	*636,300*
Oats	"	344,500	*274,600*
Peas	"	32,890	*24,800*
Beans	"	62,490	*19,030*
Maize or Indian corn	"	657,700	*851,600*
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Cwts.	89,270	*107,752*
Apricots and peaches	"	30	*713*
Bananas	Bunches.	75,403	*69,065*
Cherries	Cwts.	—	—
Currants...	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	—	—
Grapes	"	515	*117*
Lemons	"	17,560	*24,053*
Oranges	"	173,527	*163,034*
Pears	"	49	*106*
Plums	"	25	*130*
Strawberries	"	—	—
Unenumerated	"	160	*1,941*
Hay...	Tons.	1,979	*3,384*
Straw	"	3,599	*2,111*
Moss Litter*	"	2,887	—
Hops	Cwts.	1,505	*7,303*
Locust Beans	"	26,507	*4,180*
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels.	101,177	*185,846*
Potatoes	Cwts.	88,262	*229,682*
Tomatoes	"	21,946	*9,953*
Unenumerated	Value £	10,657	*11,571*
Vegetables, dried	Cwts.	1,183	*4,014*
Preserved by canning...	"	6,303	*5,104*

* Not shown in 1904.

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GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of January, 1905, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance of 8½*d.* per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1903, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s.* 1*d.* for the first, and 5*s.* for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1899–1903, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade on the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the February issue:—State of the Labour Market in January; Employment in 1904; Trade Disputes in 1904; Wholesale Prices in 1904; Relief of the Unemployed.

FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in Consular Reports of the **Annual and Miscellaneous Series** issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

No. 3,324. Supplementary Report on Trade and Shipping of Denmark for 1903.

Value of exports amounted to 27,461,000*l.*, as compared with 24,918,000*l.* in 1902; and of imports to 32,400,000, as compared with 31,372,000*l.*

Prices for butter, eggs and bacon were lower during the whole year; the quantity exported was much larger.

Most of the maize and foodstuffs imported came from United States instead of from Russia as in 1902.

Exports to United Kingdom have considerably increased.

Statistics of shipping and of fishing trade; tonnage of steam vessels has increased by about 8 per cent.

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Government Publications.

No. 3,324. Finances of Belgium for the Years 1904-05.

Budget statement for 1905 shows that the progress of commercial prosperity continues uninterruptedly.

Treasury situation on 1st January, 1904.

Details of consolidated and floating debt.

The consumption of alcohol per head has been reduced from 8·45 to 5·37 litres by the imposition of a high duty in 1903.

The abolition of the duty on alcohol used in industry has brought two important industries into existence; the production of ether and the manufacture of artificial silk.

Tables showing growth of public debt and of national revenue since 1840.

OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

Second Report by Mr. Wilson Fox on the Wages, Earnings, and Conditions of Employment of Agricultural Labourers in the United Kingdom, with Statistical Tables and Charts. [*Cd.* 2,376]. *Price* 2*s.* 9*d.*

This report, which has been prepared in the Labour Department of the Board of Trade, deals mainly with the rates of wages paid to agricultural labourers in the United Kingdom, and also with their total yearly earnings. Besides these subjects, which were also dealt with in the report published in 1900, the present report contains particulars as to the cost of living of farm labourers in the United Kingdom; information as to their hours of work and general conditions of labour, in the form of detailed statements furnished by employers; and a number of additional records of the rates of wages paid for a long series of years on farms in certain counties.

Life Assurance Companies' Return, 1. *Price* 3*s.*

This return, which is issued annually by the Board of Trade, contains statements of accounts and abstracts of actuarial reports of life assurance companies deposited at the Board of Trade during the year 1904, under section 10 of the Life Assurance Companies Act, 1870. The total number of companies dealt with in the summary of accounts is 96, of which 75 are classed as ordinary, 12 as industrial, and 9 appear in both classes. The net amount of assurances in force, as shown by the last returns of companies, was 686,328,174*l.* in ordinary, and 234,217,606*l.* in industrial business.

Return of Tramways and Light Railways (Street and Road) 310. *Price* 6*d.*

This return, which has been prepared in the Railway Department of the Board of Trade by order of the House of Commons, shows

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Government Publications.

the number of street and road tramways and light railways authorised by Act or Order, with the amount of capital authorised, paid up and expended; the length of line authorised and the length open for the public conveyance of passengers, down to 31st December, 1903, in respect of Companies, and 31st March, 1904, in respect of Local Authorities; the gross receipts, working expenditure, net receipts and application of net receipts; the number of passengers conveyed, quantity of electrical energy used, and the number of miles run by cars, during the year ended on the foregoing dates respectively; together with the number of horses, engines, and cars at those dates.

From the comparative tables prefixed to this return it appears that, as compared with 1878, the length of line has increased from 269 miles to 1,840 miles in 1903-4; the capital expenditure from 4,207,350*l.* to 46,451,444*l.*; the number of passengers carried from 146,000,000 to 1,799,000,000, and the net receipts from 230,956*l.* to 2,912,110*l.*

Railway Accidents. Return of Accidents and Casualties as reported to the Board of Trade by the several Railway Companies in the United Kingdom during the three months ending 30th September, 1904. [*Cd.* 2,369.] *Price* 1*s.* 7*d.*

These returns show that during the three months ending 30th September, 1904, 275 persons were killed and 1,778 injured on railways in the United Kingdom in the course of public traffic, the figures for the corresponding period of 1903 being 308 and 1,978 respectively. 21 persons were killed and 2,934 injured during the three months ending 30th September, 1904, as compared with 29 killed and 2,896 injured during the corresponding period of 1903, in accidents which occurred upon railway premises but in which the movement of vehicles used exclusively upon railways was not concerned.

Reports by the inspecting officers, &c., of the Board of Trade upon certain accidents which were enquired into are appended to the returns.

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Government Publications.

LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

THE following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since 1st January, 1905, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

No.	Place.	Price	No.	Place.	Price
	EUROPE—			**Russia:**	
	Belgium:		*628*	*Cultivation of Tea in the Caucasus*	½*d.*
3325	Belgium—Finances 1904–05	1*d.*			
				AFRICA—	
	Denmark:		3321	Somaliland Protectorate... ... 1903–04	3*d.*
3324	Denmark (Supplementary) 1903	½*d.*	3322	Tangier and District ...	1½*d.*
				AMERICA, NORTH—	
	German Empire and Colonies:			**United States of America:**	
624	*Memorandum on German Cement*	½*d.*	*625*	*Rice Industry in the United States*	2*d.*
	Italy:		*626*	*Iron and Steel Exhibits at the St. Louis Exhibition*...	2½*d.*
3320	Italy 1903	1½*d.*			
3323	South Italy 1904	1½*d.*	*627*	*United States Railways* ...	2½*d.*

Treaty Series.

The following numbers of the Treaty Series issued since the 1st January, 1905, may be obtained from the above-mentioned source:—

No.	———	Price.
	EUROPE— **Russia:**	
2	Agreement between the United Kingdom and Russia respecting Joint Stock Companies and other commercial, industrial, and financial associations	½*d.*
	WEST INDIES— **Cuba:**	
1	Accession of Cuba to arrangements respecting false indications of origin on goods and the International Registration of Trade Marks	½*d.*

COLONIAL OFFICE REPORTS.

The following Reports relating to H.M. Colonial Possessions issued since 1st January, 1905, may be purchased from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.:—

Annual.

No.	Place.	Price.
—	Cyprus	2½*d.*

Miscellaneous.

No.	Place.	Price.
29	Ceylon. Reports on the results of the Mineral Survey in 1903–4	2½*d.*

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THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH

OF THE

BOARD OF TRADE.

The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade was established in 1899, in consequence of a report by a Departmental Committee, with a view to meet the constantly increasing demand for prompt and accurate information on commercial matters in the interests of British trade, so far as it can be met by Government action. It is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference. In addition, it is the duty of the Branch, as far as the interests of British Trade permit, to afford information in reply to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

The office is housed at No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., and (subject to the Comptroller-General of the Commercial, Statistical, and Labour Departments of the Board of Trade) is under the direction of Mr. T. Worthington. The Intelligence Branch endeavours, on application being made to it either personally or by letter, to supply information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender; Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c.

In consequence of the transfer of the Imperial Institute to the Board of Trade from the beginning of 1903, the work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Offices of the Imperial Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch is also in communication with the Imperial Institute at South Kensington, of which Professor Wyndham Dunstan, F.R.S., has been appointed director by the Board of Trade. Among the branches of work in charge of Professor Dunstan are the scientific investigation of the economic products of the British Empire with a view to their commercial utilisation, and the superintendence of the arrangement and classification of the Collection of these products which are exhibited at the Institute. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room at 73, Basinghall Street.

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch and intended for general information is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is now issued weekly at the price of 1*d*. Supplements to the "Board of Trade Journal" are issued quarterly, under the title of the "Imperial Institute Bulletin," containing information and reports bearing on the work carried out in the Imperial Institute at South Kensington.

COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT, BOARD OF TRADE.

January, 1905.

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o Merchants, Manufacturers, and Shippers whose Advertisements appear in the "Board of Trade Journal."

(*Where no folio is given, Advertisement does not appear in this issue.*)

PAGE

beorbent Blottings—
Tullis, R., & Co., Markinch, Fife ... ...

damantine Clinker (Regd.)—
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...

dmiralty Charts—
Potter, J. D., 145, Minories..

gents (Colonial & Foreign)—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

gricultural Seeds—
Cooper, Taber & Co., 90 & 92, Southwark Street, S.E. ...
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ... 13

ir Compressors—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

le, Beer, and Stout Merchants—
Daukes & Co., Strand, London

lkali Manufacturers—
Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire 11
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C

lloys—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

PAGE

Ammonia, Anhydrous, & Liquid—
Brotherton & Co., Leeds (Carbonate of Ammonia, Muriate of Ammonia, &c.)

Ammonia (Anhydrous), Valves for—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Ammunition Manufacturers—
King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham ... ...
Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow C

Antifouling Composition for Ships—
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 25

Anti-friction Metal—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Antimony Paint—
Parker & Lester, London, S.E. 3

Antiquities in Sundials—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Artists' Colours—
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 25

PAGE

Athletic Goods Manufacturers—
Quaife Bros. & Lilley, 313, Broad Street, Birmingham

Bags and Sacks—
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool ... ...

Baths, Porcelain, Enamelled (Cast Iron)—
Clark, T. & C., & Co., Wolverhampton ... ...

Bedding—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., South Place, Finsbury, E.C. ...

Bedsteads (Iron and Brass)—
Bott, J. T., Ltd., Glover Street, Birmingham... ...
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Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Bordesley, Birmingham, and South Place, Finsbury, E.C.
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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Billiard Table Manufacturers—
Cox & Yeman, London, S.W. 21
Edwards, George, London, N.E. ... ...

Binoxide of Barium—
Bessler, Waechter & Co., 18 & 19, Fenchurch Street, E.C. 19
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle 1

Bird Seeds and Foods—
Hyde, R., & Co., London, S.E.

Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, J., & Son, 58, City Road, E.C.... ... ...

Biscuit Manufacturers—
Hubbard, Walter, Partick, Glasgow. Export Agent—J. S. Morrison, Son & Jones, Peninsular Buildings, London, E.C. 8

Blankets—Cotton—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester.

Bleaching Powder—
Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire ... 11
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C

Blue Manufacturers—
Edge, Wm., & Sons, Ltd., Bolton... 24

PAGE

Boiler Incrustation (Prevention and Removal of)—
The Boilerine Manufacturing Co., Old Kent Road, S.E...
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Boiler Makers—
Butterley Co. (The), Ltd., Derby ... ...
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Garrett, R., & Son, Ltd., Leiston, R.S.O. ... ...
Hartley & Sugden, Ltd., Halifax ... ...
Marriott & Graham, Govan, N.B. ... ...

Boiler Makers and Heating Engineers—
Riley, J. Ashton, Ltd., Manchester Road, Huddersfield

Boiler Tubes—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ... ...

Bolts, Nuts and Screws—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...
Perlam, Herb. W., Birmingham (Screws, Rivets, Washers, Nails (Roofing))

Bone Mill Manufacturers—
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable

PAGE

Boots and Shoes—
Lewis, C. & E., Northampton

Bottled Fruits—
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading 1

Brass Finishers—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury

Brassfounders—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Brass Plate Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Brass Scrap Merchants—
Adams, John, & Sons, Newcastle-on-Tyne ... ...

Bread & Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Brick & Tile Manufacturers—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Enamelled and Glazed Bricks, Glazed Wall Tiles)
Pearson, E.J. & J., Stourbridge
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham... ...
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

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STANNATE OF SODA;

ARSENIATES OF SODA—ARSENITE OF SODA;

EPSOM SALTS; GLAUBER SALTS;

CHLORIDE OF IRON; NITRATE OF IRON—FERRIC SULPHATE;

NITRATE OF COPPER; SULPHIDE OF COPPER.

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Bronze Manufacturers— PAGE
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. 23

Brush Manufacturers—
Brison, E., & Co., Bristol ...
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...

Bulbs—
Cooper, Taber & Co., Ltd., London ... ...

Bunting Manufacturers—
Riley, E., & Co., Providence Street Mills, Leeds ... ...

Button Manufacturers—
Smith & Wright, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

Cables and Wires—
Connolly Bros., Ltd., Blackley, Manchester ... ...
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Telegraph Manufact'ng Co., Ltd., The, Helsby, Warrington ... ...

Candle Manufacturers— PAGE
Ogston & Tennant, Ltd., Aberdeen 9
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. C

Carbolic Acid—
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Carbonic Acid Gas Valves—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Carboys—
Breffitt, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks 1

Carpets and Rugs—
Barton, J. E., & Sons, Kidderminster ... ...

Carriage Builders—
Forder & Co., Ltd., Warrant Holders to H.M. the King, Upper St. Martin's Lane, W.C.; Works, Wolverhampton ... ...

Cartridge Manufacturers—
Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow C

Cement Manufacturers—
Peters Bros., London, S.W. ...
West Kent Portland Cement Co., Burham, nr. Rochester

Charm Manufacturers— PAGE
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C. ...

Chemical Manufacturers—
Anglo - Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. 26
Bessler, Waechter & Co., London, E.C. 19
Blythe, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs 10
Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., Northwich, Cheshire ... 11
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith 26
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle 1
Miller, Jas., Son & Co., Glasgow 6
The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan 2
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C

Chemical Manure Manufacturers—
Anglo - Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. 20
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B. 26

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Chemical Manure Manufacturers—*continued*—
Richards, G. H., 234, Borough High Street, S.E. ... ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C

Chemical & Physical Apparatus—
Reynolds & Branson, Ltd., Leeds ... ...

Chemists (Manufacturing)—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ... C
Scott & Bowne, Ltd., London, E.C. (Scott's Emulsion) ... 9
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A, Southwark Street, London, S.E. 1

Chilled Shot—
The Abbey Improved Chilled Shot Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne ... ...

Chimney Cowl Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester ...

Chimney Shaft, &c., Builder and Repairer—
Lewis, Joseph, 5 and 6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. ... ...

China Clay—
Lovering, John, & Co., St. Austell ... ...

PAGE

China Door Furniture Mnfrs.—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C...

China Electrical Fittings—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C...

China Manufacturers—
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...
Lovering, John, & Co., St. Austell, Cornwall ... ...

Chronometers—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....
Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 and 34, Cockspur Street, London... ...

Clocks and Watches—
Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 and 34, Cockspur Street, London... ...
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...

Cloth Finishing Machines—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee

Clothing (Fustian)—
Brown, R. B., & Sons, Hebden Bridge... ... ...

Clothing Manufacturers (Fustian)—
Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge

Clothing and Woollen Mnfrs.—
Grainger & Smith, Dudley ...

PAGE

Cloths for Machinery—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury

Clutch Manufacturers—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

Coal and Coke—
Cannock Chase Colliery Co., Ltd., Birmingham ... ...
Cory Bros., & Co., Ltd., Cardiff ... ...
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. ...
Wharncliffe Woodmoor Colliery Co., Ltd., Barnsley...
Wigan Coal and Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan ... ...

Coal Depot Proprietors—
Cory Bros. & Co., Cardiff ...
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. ...

Coal Screening Plant—
Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield ... ...

Coatings—Cotton—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester

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Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

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Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Colliery Engines—
Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield ... ...

Colliery Owners—
Cannock Chase Colliery Co., The, Ltd., Birmingham ...
Cory Bros. & Co., Cardiff ...
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. ...
Wharncliffe Woodmoor Colliery Co., Ltd., Barnsley...

Colour Manufacturers—
Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen...
Levinstein, Ltd., Manchester
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C.
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 25

Composition for Bottoms of Ships—
Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen... 23
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...

Compressed Gases (Fittings for)—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Concertinas (English)—
Lachenal & Co., Little James Street, W.C. ... ...

Confectioners—
Craven, M. A., & Son, Ebor Confectionery Works, York C

Confectioners' Colours, Essences, &c.—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ... C
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours and Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., Hackney Wick, N.E. 20
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A, Southwark Street, London, S.E. 1

Confectioners (Manufacturing, Wholesale and Export)—
Craven, M. A., & Son, Ebor Confectionery Works, York C

PAGE

Coping and Paving Bricks—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Copper Tape, Wire Rope, &c.—
Connolly Bros., Ltd., Blackley, Manchester ... ...
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Corks—
Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks 1

Cotton Bagging—
Judge, T. & W., London, S.E.

Cotton Goods—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow ... ...
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury
Spinner, E., & Co., Manchester ... ...

Cotton Waste—
Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester... ...

Cranes, Crab-Winches—
Russell, George, & Co., Motherwell, N.B. ... ...

Creosote—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Damp Wall Compositions—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. 14

Decklights and Porthole Glasses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Birmingham ... ...

Decorated Tin Plates—
The Tinplate Decorating Co., Ltd., Neath ... ...

Decorative Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Delta Metal Manufacturers—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Disinfectants—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... .

PAGE

Disintegrators—
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable... ... ...
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ... ...

Distillers—
Crawford, Daniel, & Son, Ltd., Glasgow 4
Dailuaine - Talisker Distilleries, Ltd., Carron, Strathspey 4
Distillers Co., Ltd., The, Edinburgh 6

Docks (Floating) Caissons, &c.—
Cardiff Railway Co., The, Bute Docks, Cardiff; London Office, 22A, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W. ... ...
Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Co., Wyre Dock, Fleetwood ... ...

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Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C...

Drilling Machines—
Northern Engineering Co., Ltd., King's Cross, near Halifax ... ...

Drills—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester.

Dry Soap—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Dye Merchants—
Edge, Wm., Sons & Co., Bolton... 24

Edge Tools—
Thornton, G., & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Electrical Fittings (China)—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C....

Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and Contractors—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C....
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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and Contractors— *continued—*
Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Lewis, Joseph, 5-6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. ... ...

Electric Bells—
Wright, Archibald J., Ltd., 318, Upper St., London, N.

Electric Light Fittings—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C....

Electric Novelties—
Wright, Archibald J., Ltd., 318, Upper St., London, N.

Electrical Screws (Iron, Steel or Brass)—
Acme Lathe Co., Ltd., The, Ardwick, Manchester ...

Emery and Corundum Wheel Manufacturers—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. 13
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, near Manchester ...

Emery and Glass Cloth—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. 13

Emery and Glass Paper—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. 13

Emery Grindg. Machine Mkrs.—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. 13
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester ... ...

Emery Manufacturers—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. 13
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (Emery Wheel and Corundum Wheel Manufacturers) ...

Enamel Colours—
Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen... 18

PAGE

Enamelled Fire Clay Sinks—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

Encaustic Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Sons, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs... ...

Engine Cleaning Waste—
Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester... ...

Engineers—
Northern Engineering Co., Halifax ... ...

Engineers (Boilers)—
Riley, J. Ashton. Ltd., Manchester Road, Huddersfield

Engineers' Ironfounders—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee (Machine Moulded Wheels)
Whittingham & Porter, Hull
Wigan Coal and Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan ... ...
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorkhouse ... ...

Engineers' Oil Cans—
Kaye, Joseph, & Sons, Ltd., Leeds ... ...

Engineers' Stores—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Engineers' Tool Makers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... ...
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ... ...

Engineers and Millwrights— *General—*
Aveling & Porter, Rochester (Locomotives, Road Rollers, &c.) ... ...
Baird, W., & Co., Glasgow (Pig Iron, Coal, Coke, &c.) ...
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...
Burrell, C., & Sons, Ltd., Thetford (Locomotives, Steam Rollers, Traction Engines) ... ...
Chidlaw, Robert, Manchester 2
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Garrett, R., & Sons, Leiston, Suffolk ... ...

PAGE

Engineers and Millwrights— *General—continued—*
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N.
Howorth, J., & Co., Farnworth, Manchester ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (various forms of Engineers' Grinding and Polishing Machinery) ... ...
Marriott & Graham, Govan, Glasgow (Boiler Makers)...
Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield ... ...
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Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...
Spencer, Moulton & Co., Ltd., Bradford-on-Avon, Wilts...
Whiteley, William, & Sons, Lockwood, Huddersfield...
Whittingham & Porter, Hull
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorkshire ... ...

Engine Packings—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Engine-cleaning Waste—
Jones, W. C., Ltd., Manchester ... ...

Engine Roll Bars—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Sheffield ... ...

Essence Manufacturers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ... C
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading 8
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours & Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., The, London, N.E. 20
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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Essences, &c.—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ... C
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. 1

Essential Oils—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ... C
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. 1

Exhibition Agents—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn... 2

Exhibition Fitters—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Fancy Goods, Dealers in, Importers, Warehousemen and Manufacturers—
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...

Fancywood Merchants—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool ... ...

Fan Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester ... 2

Feeding Stuffs (for Cattle & Sheep)—
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B. 26

Felts (Paper Makers' Machine)—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury

Fencing (Steel and Iron)—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

File Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... ...

Filter Manufacturers—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...

Fire Bricks—
Calder Fireclay Co., The, Coatbridge... ... ...
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

PAGE

Fire Bricks—*continued*—
King Bros., Stourbridge ...
Pearson, E. J. & J., Stourbridge
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...

Fire Clay—
King Bros., Stourbridge ...
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...

Fire Clay Goods—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Sinks) ... ...

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Piggott Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

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Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale ... ...
Spinner & Co., Manchester...

Flour Mill Engineers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Flour Millers—
Appleby, Josh., & Sons, Ltd., Liverpool C
Vernon, W., & Sons, Liverpool 6

Forks—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Forwarding Agents—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., 38, Lime Street, E.C. ... ...

French Chalk—
Anglo-Italian Talc and Plumbago Mines Co., Ltd., 26, Old Hall Street, Liverpool

Fruit Essence Manufacturers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ... C
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours & Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., London, N.E. ... 20
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. 1

Furniture Trade Printers—
Smiley & Shaw, London, E.C.

Fustian Clothing Manufacturers—
Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge

PAGE

Fustian (Piece Goods)—
Moss Bros. (Hebden Bridge), Ltd. ... ...

Galvanized Iron Manufacturers—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Galvanized Wire Netting—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

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Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Garden Furniture—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

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Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Manchester ... ...

Gas Furnaces—
Cannington, Shaw & Co., St. Helens, Lancashire 26

Gas Governors—
Shaw, Joseph, Huddersfield..

Gas-Tight Motors—
Hodson Wright & Wood, Halifax ... ...

Gates, Railings, and Hurdles—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

Gauge Glasses—
Butterworth Bros., Newton Heath, Manchester ... ...
Tomey & Sons, Perth ... ...
Tomey, Joseph, & Sons, Messrs., Ltd., Manor Glass Works, Aston, Birmingham

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PAGE

General Export Merchants—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E....

Gin Distillers—
Distillers Co., Ltd., The, Edinburgh 8
Hills & Underwood, London, E.C. 17

Girders (Iron and Steel)—
Scott, Walter, Ltd., Leeds ...

Glass and Emery Paper—
London Emery Works Co., London, E.C. 13

Glass Bottles—
Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks 1
Cannington, Shaw & Co., Ltd., St. Helens 26

Glass Case Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Glass Manufacturers—
Robinson, J. B., 31, Moor Lane, E.C. ... ...
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Glass Works—
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Glazed Bricks—
Woolliscroft, G., & Sons, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Glazed Fire Clay Sinks—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

Glaziers' Diamonds—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Glues—
The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan ... 2

Glycerine—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. C

Golf Balls—
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ("Melfort" and "Henley")... ... ...

PAGE

Grain Cleaning Machinery—
Boby, Robt., Ltd., Bury St. Edmunds ... ...

Granite Merchants—
Freeman, John, Sons & Co., Ltd., Penryn, Cornwall (Engineering and Architectural) ... ...

Grease Manufacturers—
Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool 6
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 25

Grinding Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable ... ...

Grinding & Polishing Machry.—
London Emery Works Co., London, E.C. 13
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (Makers of various forms of)... ...

Guano Manufacturers—
Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. 26

Gummed Paper—
Jones, S., & Co., 56, Carter Lane, St. Paul's, E.C. ...

Hammers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... ...

Hams and Bacon—
Nickson, G. & J., & Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Hand Looms—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ld., Bury

Hardwood Merchants—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool ... ...

Hat Manufacturers—
Christy & Co., London, E.C.

Heating & Ventilating Engineers—
Hartley & Sugden, Halifax (Boilers) ... ...
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Hinge and Lock Manufacturers—
Crompton, Thomas, Ashton, near Wigan ... ...

PAGE

Hoes—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ... ...
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Holloware—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Hop Commissioners—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ... 13

Hose—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Hose-Pipe Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Hosiery—
Walker, R., & Sons, Rutland Street, Leicester ... ...

Hosiery & Finishing Machnry.—
Berridge, I. L., & Co., Leicester (Sole Proprietors Griswold Knitters) ... ...

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Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ... ...

Hydraulic Tiles—
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PAGE

India-rubber Goods—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C...

India-rubber Manufacturers—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C...
Harris, Joseph, Altrincham (Advertising Balloons, Squeakers, and Rubber Surgical Appliances) ...
India-Rubber, Gutta-Percha & Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Injector—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Ink Manufacturers—
Blackwell & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Inkstands—
Darke, E., 14a, Gt. Marlborough Street, W. ... ...

Insecticides (Horticultural)—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. C

Insulators—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C. .. C

Iron Buildings—
Ash, J., & Son, Rea Street, South Birmingham ... ...
Humphreys, Ltd., Knightsbridge, London, S.W. ...

Iron Plate Workers—
Ash, J., & Son, Rea Street, South Birmingham ... ...

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Ratner Safe Co., Ltd., Hancock Road, Bow, E. 2

Ironfounders—
Roberts, J. & S., Ltd., West Bromwich ... ...
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee
Saxby & Farmer, Canterbury Road, London, N.W. ...
Whittingham & Porter, Hull
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

PAGE

Ironmasters—
Baird, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Gartsherrie, N.B. ... ...
Parkgate Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham ... ...
Whiteley & Sons, Ltd., Huddersfield ... ...

Ironstone Adamant Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs. ... ...

Jute Weaving Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Knitting Machine Builders—
Stibbe, G., & Co., Leicester...
Harrison Patent Knitting Machine Co., Ltd., 227, Upper Brook Street, Manchester 2

Lacquer Manufacturers—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E...
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E. 21
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. 23

Lamp Manufacturers—
Bladon, T. E., 99 and 100, Northwood Street, Birmingham; London address, 4, Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, E.C. ... ...

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Fabricotti, B., London, S.W..
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Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Patricroft, Manchester ....

Launch Oil Engines—
The Seal Motor Co., Hammersmith, London ... ...

Lead Glazing—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N. ... ...

Lead Manufacturers—
Hall, W., Winstanley Road, Battersea, S.W.... ... ...

Leather Belting (Link)—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

PAGE

Leather Reviver—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E.

Leggings and Gaiters—
Wallace, Bailey & Wilkins, Bermondsey, London, S.E.

Lens Manufacturers for Ships and Railway Lamps—
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Letter Cutters—
Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield ...

Lifts—
Clark, Bunnett, & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

Lightning Conductor Manufacturer and Erector—
Lewis, Joseph, 5 & 6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. ... ...

Lime Juice—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. ... ...

Liquorice Wafers—
Hillabys', Ltd., Pontefract... 8

Lithographic Varnish—
Coates Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Locomotive Engine Builders—
Aveling & Porter, Ltd., Rochester ... ...
Burrell, C., & Sons, Ltd., Thetford ... ...
Garrett, R., & Sons, Leiston, Suffolk ... ...

Looking Glass Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2
Robinson, J. B., 31, Moor Lane, E.C.... ... ...

Loom Makers—
Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee

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Bremner, J. A., & Co., Manchester C
Fleming, A. B., & Co., Edinburgh ... ...
Nobel Bros., Petersburg ... 3

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Lubricants—*continued*— PAGE
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. 23
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. C

Lubricating Oils—
Light, Jas., & Son, Ltd., 9, Rumford Street, Liverpool 6
Nobel Bros., Petersburg ... 3
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Lubricators—
Nobel Bros., Petersburg ... 3

Machine Felts—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury

Machine Knives, Cutters & Blades—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ...

Machine Makers—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee

Machine Screws, Belts, Nuts, &c.—
Acme Lathe Co., Ltd., The, Ardwick, Manchester ...

Magnesia—
Henry, T. & W., East Street, St. Peters, Manchester ... 20

Manchester Warehousemen—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E. ...

Manures (Chemical)—
Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ... ...
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith 25
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle 1
Thomson, Wm., & Sons, Ltd., Clovenfords by Galashiels (for Vines & Plants) ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C

Marble and Granite Merchant and Importer—
Fabbricotti, B., Pimlico, London, S.W. ... ...

Marble Manufacturers of all Descriptions—
Fabbricotti, B., Pimlico, London, S.W. ... ...

Mattresses (Woven Wire)— PAGE
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Hay Mill, Birmingham ... ...
Lane, George, & Sons, Brueton Street, Birmingham ...

Medical Plasters—
De St. Dalmas, A., & Co., Leicester 8

Metal Merchants and Manfrs.—
Billington & Newton, Longport, Staffs. ... ...
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Dugard Bros., Birmingham...
King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

Metal Polish—
Baumgartner, J. F., & Co., London, W. ... ...

Military and Naval Ornaments—
Narborough, F., 40, 42, 44, Lombard Street, Birmingham ... ...
Wilkins, T. B., 52, Clement Street, Birmingham... ...

Mine Owners—
Wigan Coal & Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan (Producers of Best House, Gas and Steam Coals, and Wigan Cannel)

Mineral Waters—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. ... ...

Mining Lamps (all classes)—
Cooke, Joseph, & Son (Belmont Passage), 203, Lawley Street, Birmingham ... ...

Mortar and Pestle Manfrs.—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C....

Mortice Furniture—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C....

Mosaic and Tiles Decoration—
Geary, Walker & Co., 11, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C. ... ...
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs. ... ...

Motors (Gas Tight)—
Hodgson, Wright & Wood, Halifax ... ...

Mushroom Ketchup— PAGE
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading 8

Musical Instrument Manfrs.—
Lachenal & Co., London, W.C.

Mustard Seed—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ... 13

Nails—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

Name Plate Makers—
Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield ...

Newspapers—
Colliery Guardian, 49, Essex Street, Strand, W.C. ... 10

Night Lights—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. C

Oar Manufacturers—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool ... ...

Office Fittings—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Oilcake (Linseed and Cotton)—
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B. 26

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Bladon, T. E., 99 & 100, Northwood Street, Birmingham; London address, 4, Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, E.C. ... ...
Kaye, Joseph, & Sons, Ltd., Leeds ... ...

Oil Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Manchester ... ...
The Seal Motor Co., Hammersmith, London ... ...

Oil Mill Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

Oil Refiners, Distillers, & Mfrs.—
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Fleming, A. B., & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh... ... ...
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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Oil Refiners, Distillers, and Manufacturers—*continued*— PAGE
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. C
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C. ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 25

Opal Tiling—
The Permanent Decorative Glass Co., Ltd., Lancaster..

Ore Crushing Machines—
Baxter, W. H., Leeds ... ...

Ovens—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Oxfords Manufacturers—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow ... ...

Oxides—
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Oxygen, Cylinder Valves for—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Paint Manufacturers—
Hoyle, Robson, Barnett & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne...
Parker & Lester, London, S.E. (Antimony Paint) ... 3
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Robinson, E., & Co., Ltd., City Works, Sheffield ...
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. 14
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 25

Paper Bag Makers (Home and Export)—
Higham Bros., Cone Works, Farnworth, near Bolton, Lancs.... ... ...

Paper Bags—
Smith, Stone & Knight, Ltd., Union Paper Mills, Birmingham ... ...

Paper Makers— PAGE
Smith & McLaurin, Messrs., Ltd., Milliken Park, Scotland (Coated and Gummed Papers) ... ...
Tullis, R., & Co., Markinch, Fife ... ...

Paper Makers and Stationers (Wholesale and Export)—
Annandale, John, & Sons, Ltd., Shotley Grove, Durham ... ...
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Ford, T. B., Loudwater, High Wycombe (Blottings)
Hodgkinson, W. S., & Co., Wells, Somerset ... ...
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Olive & Partington, Manchester ... ...

Paper Makers' Steel and Bronze Tools—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ...

Paper Makers' Tools—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Sheffield ... ...

Parquet Flooring—
Geary, Walker & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Patent Fuel Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

Pavement Light Lenses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Birmingham ... ...

Paving Bricks—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Pen Manufacturers—
Gillott, J., & Sons, Birmingham ... ...

Perfumers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... C

Perfumery Materials - PAGE
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... C
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A, Southwark Street, London, S.E. 1

Phosphor Bronze—
Billington & Newton, Longport, Staffs. ... ...

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Platinotype Co., The, London, W.C. ... ...

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Picks—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ... ...

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Edridge, Merrett & Co., Ltd., Legge Street, Birmingham

Pistons—
Buckley, W., & Co., Millsands, Sheffield ... .

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Anglo-Italian Talc and Plumbago Mines Co., Ltd., 26, Old Hall Street, Liverpool

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Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C...

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Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. 14

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PAGE

Portland Cement—
Peters Bros., 34, Victoria Street, S.W. ... ...
West Kent Portland Cement Co., Burham, Rochester, Kent ... ...

Preservative for Stone, &c.—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. 14

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Blackwell & Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Coates Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Proprietary Articles, Specialities, &c.—
Baumgartner, J. F., & Co., London, W. ("La Brillantine" Metallic Powder)
Dalmas, A. de St., & Co., Leicester (Medical Plaisters) 8
Henry's Calcined Magnesia (T. & W. Henry), Manchester 20
Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Co., Lincoln (Clarke's Blood Mixture).. 25
Scott & Bowne, Ltd., London E.C. (Scott's Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil)... ... 9

Provision Merchants (Wholesale and Export)—
Griffiths, McAlister & Co., Liverpool ... ...
Gunson, Geo., Sons & Co. Liverpool ... ...
MacSimon's Stores, Ltd., Canning Place, Liverpool..
Nickson, G. & J., & Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Provisions (Importers and Exporters)—
Gunson, Geo., Sons & Co., 3, Atherton Street, Liverpool

PAGE

Pulley Blocks—
Godfrey, J. T., Loughborough

Pulleys—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

Pumping Engines—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...
Simpson, Jas., & Co, Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Pumps—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

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Freeman, J., Son & Co., London, W. ... ...
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

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Saxby & Farmer, Ltd., Canterbury Road, London, N.W. (Railway Signals, &c.) ... ...

Railway Brass Foundry—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Heath Mill Lane, Birmingham ... ...

Railway Lamp Lenses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham

Railway Signals—
Saxby & Farmer, Ltd., London, N.W. ... ...

Rain Water Separator—
Rogers, H. J., Shottermill, Haslemere ... ...

Reducing Valves for Compressed Gases—
Scotch & Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

PAGE

Refrigerators—
Haslam Foundry and Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Derby ... ...
Pulsometer Engineering Co., The, Reading and London

Retorts—
Stevens, J., & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Rings and Springs—
Buckley, Wm., & Co., Millsands, Sheffield... ... ...

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Priest, B., & Sons, Oldhills, Staffs ... ...

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Safety Fuse Manufacturers— PAGE
Nobel's Explosive Co., Ltd., Glasgow C

Salt—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C

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Adams, John, & Sons, Broad Chare, Newcastle-on-Tyne

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Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...

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Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

Sauce Manufacturers—
Cocks, Chas., & Co., Ltd., Reading 8

Saw Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... ...

Scrap Iron—
Adams, John, & Sons, Broad Chare, Newcastle-on-Tyne 2

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Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

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Periam, H. W., Birmingham

Seals—
Pryor, E. & Son, Sheffield ...

Seed Merchants—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ... 13

Seeds— PAGE
Cooper, Taber & Co., Ltd., London ... ...

Serge—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford... ... ...
Hamlyn Bros., Ltd., Buckfastleigh, Devon ... ...
Spinner & Co., Manchester...

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Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Bordesley, Birmingham... ...

Ships' Lamp Lenses— PAGE
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham

Shirtings—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow ... ...

Shoe Rivets—
Edridge, Merrett & Co., Ltd., Legge Street, Birmingham

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Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. C
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Soap Manufacturers—*contd.* PAGE
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Hazlehurst Soap Works, Runcorn 3
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester (Hard and Soft Soaps)... ... ...

Soap Powders—
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Soap Stone—
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Soda—
Brunner, Mond, & Co, Northwich, Cheshire 11
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C

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Thornton, George, & Co., Birmingham ... ...

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Steam Gauge—
Hodson, Wright & Wood, Halifax ... ...

Steam Pulsating Pumps—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...

Steam Saw Mills—
Fabbricotti, B., London, S.W.

Steam Valves— PAGE
Shaw, J., Albert Works, Huddersfield ... ...

Steel Castings, Steel and Iron Forgings, &c.—
Baird, W., & Co., Glasgow ...
Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby
Fairley, J., & Sons, Birmingham ... ...
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Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield ...

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Baxter, W. H., Ltd., Leeds...

Stone, Solution for Preservation of—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. 14

Stoves—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

Strong Rooms— PAGE
Hobbs, Hart & Co., Ltd., London, N.... ... ...

Sugar Refiners—
Tate, Henry, & Sons, Ltd., London and Liverpool ... C

Sulphate of Copper—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C

Sulphate of Soda Manufacturers—
Blythe, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs. 10
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C

Sulphuric Acid Manufacturers—
Blythe, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs. 10
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith 25
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C

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Tallow—
Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool 6

Tanks—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

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PAGE

Tea Merchants—
Tower Tea Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Teak Timber—
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Telegraph Engineers—
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Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale ... ...
Spinner, E., & Co., Manchester

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Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Timber Merchants—
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Gradwell, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness, Lancs.

PAGE

Timber Merchants and Importers—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Liverpool .. ..
Gradwell, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness, Lancs.

Tin Boxes and Canisters—
Tinplate Decorating Co., Ltd., The, Neath ... ...

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London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...

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Platt, Jas., & Co., 77, St. Martin's Lane, W.C.... ...

Twines—
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool ... ...

Typewriter—
Yost Typewriter Co., Ltd., The, London, E.C. ... ...

PAGE

Tyre Manufacturers—
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N.... ... ...

Valves for Compressed Gases—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Varnish Manufacturers—
Blackwell & Co., Dyer's Buildings, E.C.... ... ...
Flack, Henry, London, S.E...
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E. 21
Palmer, W. H., & Co., 82, Old Street, E.C. 23
Parker & Lester, London, S.E. (Parker's Imperial Black)... 3
Robinson, E., & Co., Ltd., City Works, Sheffield ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 25

Vegetable Colours—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E ... C
Confectioners' Vegetable Colour and Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., The, London, N.E. 20
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PAGE

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Frank Hawker Carpathian Silver Co., Ltd., 52, Spencer-street, Birmingham ... ...

Washers—
Periam, Herbert W., Ltd., Floodgate-street Works, Birmingham ... ...

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Piggott Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

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Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. 14

Water Softeners—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading ... ...

Water Taps—
Palatine Engineering Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Weaving Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

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Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N.... ... ...

Whip and Walking Stick Makers—
Narborough, F., 42 & 44, Lombard-street, Birmingham ... ...

White Lead Manufacturers—
Mersey White Lead Co., Ltd., Warrington ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 25

Wine and Spirit Merchants— PAGE
Chaplin, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, W.C. 16
Crawford, Daniel, & Son, Ltd., Glasgow C
Dailuaine-Talisker Distilleries, Ltd., Head Offices, 50, Wellington-street, Glasgow (Whisky from solely pure Malt) 4
Distillers Co., Ltd. (The Edinburgh "D.C.L." Whisky and Gin) 8
Hills & Underwood, London, E.C. 17
Morgan & Co., Hamburg ... 4

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Geary, Walker & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Wood Stains—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E.
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E. 21

Wolsey Unshrinkable Wool-Underwear— PAGE
Walker, R., & Sons, Rutland Street, Leicester ... ...

Wool Importers—
Hall, John, & Sons, Liverpool ... ...

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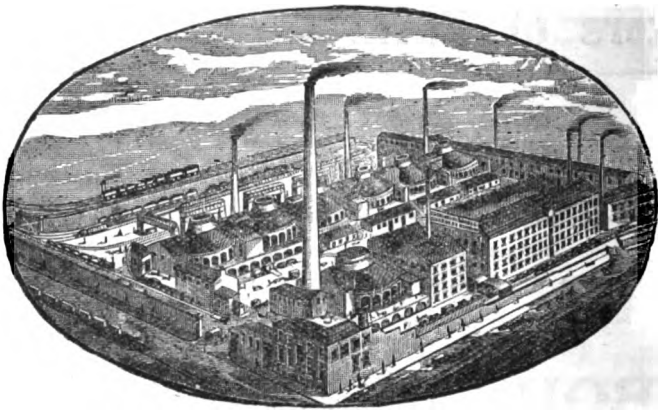

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THE Board of Trade Journal

(With which is incorporated the "Imperial Institute Journal.")

Edited by the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

MARCH 2, 1905.

	PAGE
OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE	389
EMPIRE GROWN COTTON	402
SAMPLES ON VIEW AT 73, BASINGHALL STREET, E.C.	
SILK INDUSTRY OF HUNGARY	402
MINERAL PRODUCTION OF THE UNITED STATES IN 1904	404
TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS	406
SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT	419
MINERALS, METALS, AND MACHINERY	420
YARNS AND TEXTILES	425
AGRICULTURE	426
MISCELLANEOUS	427
STATISTICAL TABLES	429
GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS (BOARD OF TRADE,* FOREIGN OFFICE, COLONIAL OFFICE, &c.)	431

For list of contents in detail see p. vii. *of Advertisements.*

* *For list of principal publications of Board of Trade see p.* v. *of Advertisements.*

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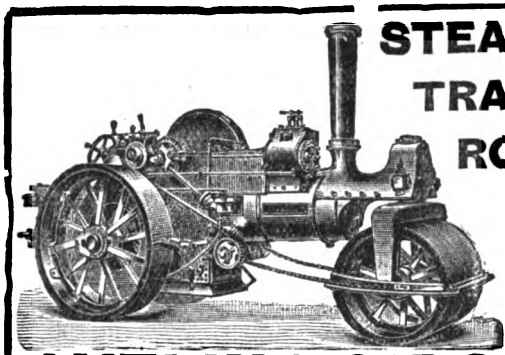

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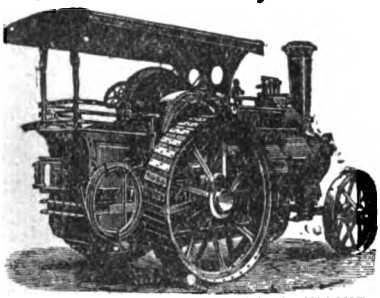

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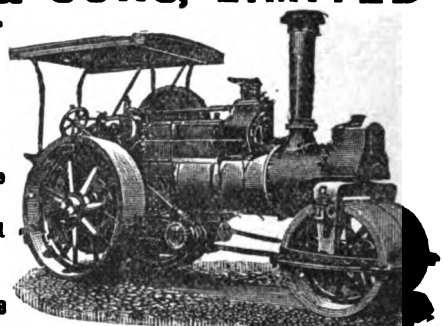

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DUBLIN.—March 8th.—1,000 tons of bullhead steel rails, fishplates, &c., for the Dublin, Wicklow, and Wexford Railway Company. The Secretary, Westland Row Station, Dublin.

DUBLIN.—March 6th.—3,000 tons of 90 lbs. steel bullhead rails, with the necessary fishplates, and 2,000 tons of cast-iron chairs, for the Great Northern Railway Company of Ireland. The Secretary's Office, Amiens Street Terminus, Dublin.

ENFIELD.—March 8th.—600 lineal yards of cast-iron pipes, for the Urban District Council. Mr. R. Collins, the Surveyor, Public Offices.

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DARTFORD.—March 6th.—Coal, &c., for the Joint Hospital Committee. The Office of the Clerk, Sessions House, Dartford, Kent.

DUNMANWAY.—March 7th.—Coal, for the Guardians of Dunmanway Union. The Clerk of the Union.

EAST GRINSTEAD.—March 1st.—Coal and coke, for the Joint Hospital Committee. Mr. E. P. Hughes, Clerk, East Grinstead.

FLAX BOURTON.—March 6th.—Coal, &c., for the Long Ashton Union. The Workhouse, Flax Bourton.

GREENWICH.—March 14th.—Coal, for the Guardians. The Clerk's Office, Union House.

ECCLES.—March 13th.—Castings, &c., for the Corporation. The Borough Surveyor.

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CASTLE EDEN.—March 16th.—Coal, &c., for the Guardians of Easington Union. The Master of the Workhouse, Easington, Castle Eden, R.S.O.

COLCHESTER.—March 4th.—Coal and coke, for the Roads and Drainage Committee. The Borough Engineer and Surveyor, Town Hall.

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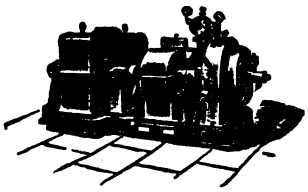
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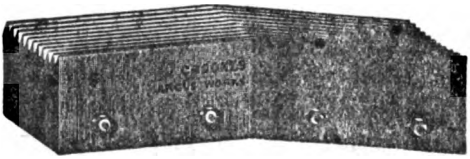

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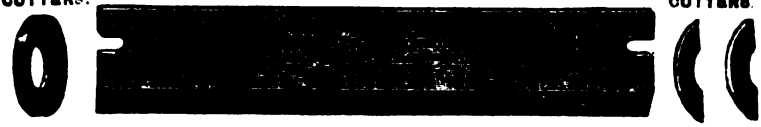

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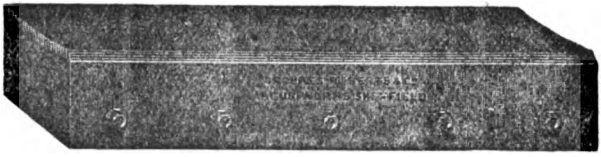

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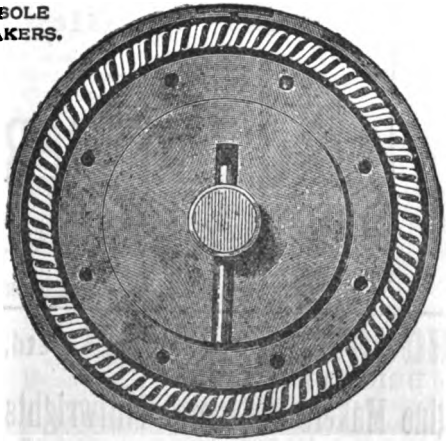

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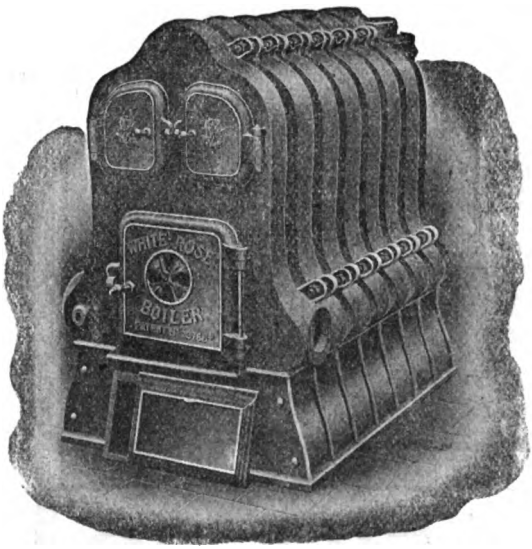

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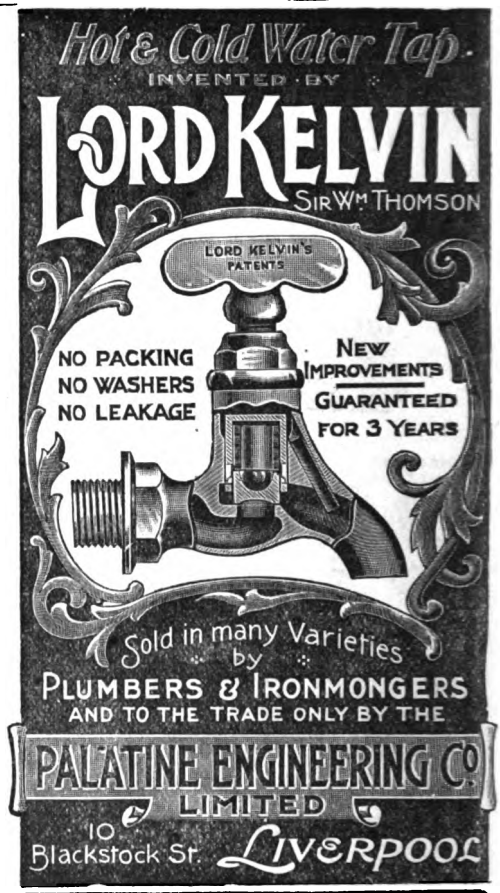

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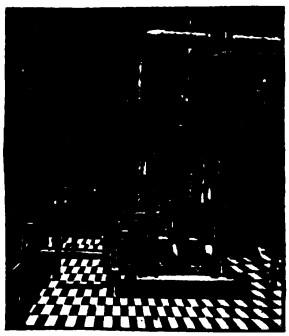

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$\frac{3}{4}$, $\frac{7}{8}$, 1, $1\frac{1}{8}$, $1\frac{1}{4}$, $1\frac{3}{8}$, $1\frac{1}{2}$, $1\frac{5}{8}$, $1\frac{3}{4}$, $1\frac{7}{8}$, 2, $2\frac{1}{4}$, $2\frac{1}{2}$, $2\frac{3}{4}$, 3, $3\frac{1}{4}$, $3\frac{1}{2}$, $3\frac{3}{4}$, 4, $4\frac{1}{4}$, $4\frac{1}{2}$, $4\frac{3}{4}$, 5, $5\frac{1}{4}$, $5\frac{1}{2}$, $5\frac{3}{4}$ and 6.

The principal features of these Reamers are:—The accuracy and ease in which cutters can be adjusted and kept to exact size or altered for odd sizes, and large range of expansion, which is one-fourth of the diameter. The cutters are a moving fit in slots, and when tightened up by taper screwed cap are held firmly, not by their ends but by their whole length.

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PRICES ON APPLICATION.

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Board of Trade Journal.

MARCH 2ND, 1905.

CONTENTS.

PAGE

Openings for British Trade 389

British Colonies, &c.:—

British India.—Tenders for Railway Material, Gas and Hydraulic Tubing, Dog Spikes, and Railway Stores.
Opening for Steam Tramway Concession.

Canada.—Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

Natal.—Opening for Building Materials.
Tenders for Cast-iron Pipes, &c.

Foreign Countries:—

Openings for Trade in Sweden, Norway, Netherlands, Germany—Russia, Belgium, Spain, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Roumania, Servia, Ottoman Empire, United States of America, Philippines, Argentina.

Forthcoming Exhibition:—

Budapest.

Empire Grown Cotton 402

Samples on View at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

Silk Industry of Hungary 402

Mineral Production of the United States in 1904 404

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations 406

Natal. British East Africa and Uganda Protectorates. Jamaica. Hong Kong. Perak. Germany. France. Italy. Turkey. United States of America. Argentina.

Shipping and Transport 419

Departmental Committee of Enquiry into the Tonnage Measurement of Vessels in the United Kingdom. Increased S.S. Sailings from Antwerp to Quebec and Montreal. "Gulf Line" to Ecuador to call at Havre. Argentine Railway Statistics for 1904. Suspension of Callao—Hong Kong Steamer Service.

Minerals, Metals, and Machinery 420

Enquiry under the Boiler Explosions Act. Establishment of Steel Works in British India. Gold Production of Australasia. Output of Minerals and Industrial Products in the Transvaal. Coal and Sulphur Trade of Sicily. Production of Bessemer Steel Ingots and Steel Rails in the United States in 1904.

Yarns and Textiles 425

Exports of Cotton Goods from the United States of America.

Agriculture... 426

Hemp Crop of Southern Italy. Grain Harvest of Argentina.

Miscellaneous 427

Trade of Free Port of Copenhagen. Alcohol used for Industrial Purposes in Belgium. Commercial Travellers in Switzerland. Appointment of Turkish Commission to enquire into the Chemical Analysis of Articles of Consumption. Commercial Settlements in Shantung.

Statistical Tables... 429

Cotton Returns.
Corn Prices.
Imports of Agricultural Produce.

Government Publications 431

Board of Trade Returns and Labour Gazette. Note of Colonial Office Report, also of certain other Government Publications having a bearing upon trade, issued during the week. List of Foreign Office Reports, arranged geographically, also a list of Colonial Office Reports issued since the beginning of the year.

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THE

Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. XLVIII.] March 2, 1905. [No. 431.

In a notice on p. 434 will be found a statement of the objects and work of the **Commercial Intelligence Branch** of the Board of Trade.

The Branch has been moved from 50, Parliament Street to 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

"Advantage, London" is the registered telegraphic address of the Branch.

The Temporary Enquiry Office, hitherto at 49, Eastcheap, E.C., has also been moved to 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

Attention is directed to the Sample Room at the latter address, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute or the Indian or Colonial Governments are exhibited from time to time. At present there are on view, among other exhibits, eleven samples of cotton grown within the Empire, which have been received from the British Cotton Growing Association. [See notice on p. 402.]

INFORMATION ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

Information on the subjects named in the notice on the cover will be found in the following Board of Trade publications, obtainable in London upon application to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W., and their Sub-Agents, Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, at the prices named, viz.:—

1 "Board of Trade Journal," 3rd September, 1903, pp. 448-61, 5th May, 1904, p. 216, 4th August, 1904, p. 212, 10th November, 1904, pp. 265-6, and 9th February, 1905, p. 259, at 1*d.* per number.

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2, 3, 4, 5 Statistical Abstract for the United Kingdom, 51st number (Cd. 2,192), at 1*s.* 3*d.* ... ... pp. 28/29; p. 12; pp. 176/191; pp. 57/157

5
- Monthly Accounts relating to Trade and Navigation (0.10) at 8½*d.*
- Annual Statement of Trade, 1903. Vol. I. (Cd. 2,043) at 7*s.* 1*d.* ... pp. 166 *et seq.*
- Annual Statement of Trade, 1903. Vol. II. (Cd. 2,081) at 5*s.* ... ... pp. 177/453

6, 7 Annual Abstract of Labour Statistics, 9th No. (Cd. 1,755) at 1*s.* ... pp. 176/182; pp. 34/72

7 Report on Changes in Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour (Cd. 2,199), at 7*d.*

8 Colonial Import Duties Return (Cd. 2,185) 2*s.* 1*d.*

9 Canada (Preferential Tariff for goods from the United Kingdom), No. 310, at ½*d.*

10
- Statistical Abstract for the Colonial and other Possessions of the United Kingdom, 41st No. (Cd. 1,912) at 1*s.* 10*d.* ... ... pp. 38/243
- Statistical Abstract for the British Empire, 1st No. (Cd. 2,395) at 6*d.* ... pp. 3/45
- Trade (Colonies & the United Kingdom), No. 262, 2*d.*
- Trade (Colonies and Foreign Countries), No. 110, 2*d.*

11 Foreign Import Duties Return (Cd. 2,340) at 2*s.*

12 Statistical Abstract for the principal and other foreign countries, 30th number (Cd. 2,202) at 1*s.* 6*d.* ... pp. 44/217

13 Trade between the United Kingdom and Germany (131) at 1½*d.*

14 Memorandum on the comparative Statistics of Population, Industry, and Commerce in the United Kingdom and some leading foreign countries (Cd. 1,199) at 5½*d.*

15
- British and Foreign Trade and Industry. Memoranda, Statistical Tables and Charts (Cd. 1,761) at 3*s.* 6*d.*
- British and Foreign Trade and Industry (Second Series). Second Series of Memoranda, Statistical Tables and Charts (Cd. 2,337) at 3*s.* 6*d.*

16 Naval Expenditure and Mercantile Marine (Great Britain, &c.) (284) at 1*d.*

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OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

BRITISH INDIA.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS: INDIA OFFICE.

Railway Material.

The Secretary of State for India in Council is prepared to receive tenders from such persons as may be willing to supply—

1. Rails and fishplates.
2. Wheels and axles for carriages.
3. Carriage underframes and body ironwork.

The conditions of contract may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., or may be obtained on application to the Director-General of Stores, India Office, Whitehall, S.W. Tenders are to be delivered at the latter office by two p.m. on Tuesday, the 7th March, 1905, for Nos. 1 and 2, and on Tuesday, the 14th March, 1905, for No. 3, after which times respectively no tender will be received.

Gas and Hydraulic Tubing.

The Directors of the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway Company are prepared to receive, up to noon on Tuesday, the 7th March, tenders for the supply of—

Gas and hydraulic tubing.

Tenders must be made on a form, copies of which, with specification, can be obtained at the offices of the Company, Gloucester House, Bishopsgate Street Without, London, E.C., on payment of 21*s.* each (which will not be returned).

The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

Dog Spikes.

The East Indian Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply and delivery of—

300,000 dog spikes,

as per specification to be seen at the Company's Offices, Nicholas Lane, London, E.C.

Tenders are to be sent to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Dog Spikes," not later than noon on Wednesday, the 8th March.

The Company reserve the right to divide the order, also to decline any tender without assigning a reason, and do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

For each specification a fee of 1*l.* 1*s.* is charged, which cannot under any circumstances be returned.

Railway Stores.

The Directors of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply of the following stores, namely:—Fencing materials; lifting and traversing screw jacks; steel fishbolts, nuts and washers; steel and ironwork for bridges; spring steel; pig lead; nails and tacks; linoleum floor cloth.

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Openings for British Trade.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

Specifications and forms of tender may be obtained at the Company's Offices, 48, Copthall Avenue, E.C., on payment of the fee for the specification, which payment will not be returned.

Tenders must be delivered in sealed envelopes, addressed to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Fencing Materials," or, as the case may be, not later than 11 a.m. on Thursday, the 9th March.

The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

Steam Tramway Concession.

A notice appears in "Indian Engineering" of 28th January, to the effect that the Assam Administration, being desirous of having the town of Sylhet connected with the Assam-Bengal Railway at Kulaura by a 2 feet 6 in. gauge steam tramway, are prepared to offer the following concessions to a company or a firm undertaking to construct and work such a line :—

1. The provision, free of charge, of the land required for the tramway and its stations.

2. Permission to lay the rails upon existing road embankments —with permission to widen if necessary the existing road embankments for the purpose—provided that a clear width of 6 feet is left for road traffic.

3. An annual subsidy, provided by Local Boards in the Sylhet district, of Rs. 1,000 per mile, to commence from the date on which the tramway is open to traffic, and to continue for a period of 10 years.

4. Reduction to 2 annas per cubic foot (converted) of the royalty due on any timber obtained from Government forests for the original construction of the line.

The length of the line would be 33 miles approximately.

It is not expected that the Kusiara river would be bridged—at all events for some time to come,—and it will suffice if effective arrangements are made to transport passengers and goods across this river by ferry.

Similar ferry arrangements may be made on the Surma river opposite the town of Sylhet, the terminal station being situated on the south bank of this river.

Applications should be addressed to the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam, Public Works Department, Shillong.

CANADA.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following were among the recent enquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the **Canadian Government Offices, Victoria Street, S.W.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—Enquiry has been made by a correspondent at

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Openings for British Trade.

CANADA—*continued.*

Jersey for names of Canadian exporters of flour, hams, and other produce.

A metal merchant is anxious to quote for the purchase of brass locomotive tubes, firebox copper plates and other disused railway material, old gun carriage metal, cartridge cases, &c., which may be offering in Canada for shipment to England.

A Scotch firm, who act as buying agents for South African houses, wish to hear from Canadian manufacturers and exporters of produce with f.o.b. prices Canadian ports.

Canadian Enquiries.—Application has been made from Quebec for names of firms in Great Britain open to deal in "excelsior," fine wood shavings for packing, upholstering, &c., compressed and packed in rectangular bales of 100 lbs. or more.

An agent in Montreal, closely in touch with the grocery trade, wishes to obtain some agencies for specialities suitable for that business.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, Victoria Street, S.W.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following trade enquiries have been received at the **Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office,** 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—A manufacturer of fitted dressing bags, dress suit cases and other leather goods wishes to hear from Canadian importers.

An English firm, manufacturing a special class of boots and shoes, wish to be placed in communication with Canadian importers who could deal in their goods.

A firm manufacturing cerosine wax wish to do business in Canada, and are prepared to appoint a resident agent possessing the necessary connection.

Canadian Enquiries.—A Canadian firm, in a position to quote for supplies of manufactures of wood, such as chair stock, dowels, wash boards, clothes pins, broom and shovel handles, &c., would be pleased to hear from United Kingdom importers or would act as buying agents for same.

A Canadian manufacturer of excelsior (wood wool) asks to be placed in correspondence with United Kingdom importers.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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Openings for British Trade.

NATAL.

Building Materials.

Although received too late for tenders to be sent hence by mail, it may be useful to note that the Municipality of Durban have issued a notice calling for tenders for the erection and completion of the new Town Hall. Tenders will be received by the Town Clerk not later than the 15th March.

The following particulars relating to this contract have been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch from their Correspondent at Durban (Mr. A. D. C. Agnew):—

The proposed buildings, of which Mr. Agnew gives a rough sketch, consist of three blocks. The walls are to be of stone, except those facing the 20-feet courts which separate the blocks.

Tenders are being called for in (*a*) local stone, and (*b*) Bath stone.

About 20,000*l.* worth of steel girders and beams will be required —also tiling for interior corridors and floors—and wood blocks, pitch-pine and parquetry for floors.

A considerable quantity of teak, oak and pine will be needed for doors, window frames, panelling, &c.

With few exceptions all the materials are to be *British*.

Mr. Agnew adds that it is impossible to give at this stage any accurate estimate of the total cost of the buildings, but it will probably not be less than 300,000*l.*, of which amount 120,000*l.* may be taken to represent roughly the cost of the stone required.

Cast Iron Pipes, &c.

Mr. Agnew also forwards copy of a notice, issued by the Verulam Local Board, inviting tenders for the supply and delivery, in Durban, of about 680 tons of 3, 4, 5 and 6-inch cast-iron spigot and socket water pipes, and other pipe castings and fittings required for the water supply of their district.

Plans and specifications may be seen, and bills of quantities and form of tender obtained, on application at the office of the Engineer, Mr. G. B. Laffan, M.I.C.E., Hardy's Chambers, Printing Office Street, Pietermaritzburg, on payment of a deposit of two guineas, which will be returned after receipt of a *bonâ fide* tender on the form provided.

Plans and specifications may also be seen at the Town Office, Verulam.

Sealed tenders, on the form supplied, addressed to the Chairman of the Local Board, Verulam, and endorsed "Tender for Water Pipes," must be delivered at the Town Office, Verulam, Natal, on or before Monday, 3rd April, 1905.

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Openings for British Trade.

SWEDEN.

Marine Motors.

The United States Consul at Gothenberg reports an opening for motors in Sweden, the following being in demand:—1, gasoline (benzine) motors for pleasure launches and boats; 2, kerosene motors for fishing boats, barges, and small tugboats; and 3, small, cheap motors which can be fitted into open rowboats.

He writes:—"The persons in Gothenberg with means enough to buy first-class motor launches are comparatively few; still there are enough of them to warrant efforts on the part of manufacturers to get an extended market here. The motors should be reliable and in good working order when delivered, and not too expensive. The fishermen—that is, those who can afford to do so—will undoubtedly continue to buy kerosene motors for their boats and dories; it is possible that most of them now purchase Swedish motors, because the Swedish manufacturers provide special facilities for putting their motors in the boats. Some small freight boats or barges have been provided with kerosene motors recently, and others will undoubtedly follow. It has been proposed to build small passenger boats with motors for traffic on the coast.

"If motors for 14 to 16 foot rowboats could be made very cheap, and still reliable, I think the demand would be considerable. There are a great many persons of limited means here who like to take a boat trip on the river, or out to the sea, on leisure hours or on Sundays, but even 50 dols. or 75 dols. would be considered by this class far too much for a small motor, when the boat itself could be bought for 13 dols. to 20 dols. The agent selling the motors should be thoroughly familiar with their mechanism—better still if he could have a small workshop where defects could be corrected. . . . . .

"The most economical way, under ordinary circumstances, is to import the motors and build the boats here. The transportation charges for boats or launches would be too high, it is said. There is no import duty on boats or vessels. The import duty on gasoline or kerosene motors is 10 per cent. *ad valorem*, transportation costs, &c., entering into the dutiable value. The duty on electric apparatus is 15 per cent. *ad valorem*."

Gas Oil.

The supplement to the "Post och Inrikes Tidningar" of 21st February contains a notice inviting tenders for the supply of 500,000 kilogs. of gas oil for the use of the Swedish State Railways. Tenders must be sent to the Railway Administration, Stockholm, before 8th April, but persons wishing to tender must submit samples before 18th March.

The notice referred to can be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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Openings for British Trade.

SWEDEN—*continued.*

Agricultural Machinery and Implements.

According to "Handels Museum" (Vienna) there is a good market in Sweden for agricultural machinery and implements; a variety of ploughs and machines for sowing are used there, as well as machines for distributing phosphates, cleaning corn, chopping straw, threshing machines worked by animal traction, steel forks, harrows, &c. The ploughs used in the south and centre of Sweden, other than those manufactured in the country, are imported from Germany and the United States, machines for sowing are mainly imported from Germany; the other kinds of machinery and implements employed are chiefly of local manufacture.

The desirability of sending commercial travellers with technical knowledge, and speaking Swedish, is dwelt upon by "Handels Museum." It is stated that the organisation of permanent exhibitions of agricultural machinery would produce excellent results, but would involve great expense. The distribution of illustrated catalogues, indicating wholesale prices, should also prove of value.

NORWAY.

Bronze Wire.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul-General at Christiania (Viscount Melville) that tenders for the supply of 6 tons of 1·25 mm. bronze wire to the Norwegian State Telegraph Authorities will be received, not later than the 1st April next, through agents resident in Christiania, with whom alone the authorities will deal, and to whom all further enquiries in the matter should be addressed.

H.M. Consul-General points out that it should be clearly understood that he is not competent to tender on behalf of British firms, nor to finally select any particular Norwegian firm on their behalf to do so. He also points out that it is useless to tender at so late a date that compliance with the conditions of tender is impossible.

A copy of the specification may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

Apart from the usual Customs duties, a preference of from 10 to 15 per cent. is given to Norwegian manufacturers.

Coal and Briquettes.

H.M. Consul-General at Christiania has also forwarded particulars (in Norwegian) of a contract for the supply of 1,000 tons of English briquettes, 3,000 tons of best large Shireoaks or Kiveton Park coal, together with 5,000 tons of Lambton Wallsend coal, for which

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Openings for British Trade.

NORWAY—*continued.*

tenders, addressed to the Norwegian Main Railway Authorities, should be sent in by 11 a.m. on the 16th March, 1905.

The particulars may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

Engine Coal.

A further notification has been received to the effect that tenders are invited by the Norwegian State Railway authorities for the supply and delivery of 99,250 tons of best quality engine coal. Sealed tenders, marked "Lokomotivkul," should be addressed "Styrelsens Expeditionskontor, Statsbanerne, Christiania," where they will be received not later than 3 p.m. on the 24th March.

Shireoak, Kiveton Park, Langwith, Bolsover, and Lambton are mentioned to show the class of coal required. The price of each description of coal at each place of delivery must be expressly stated in the tender. The coal is to be delivered free in trucks at the various ports.

Further particulars as to delivery at different ports, conditions of payment, &c., may be consulted at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

It should be noted that only those firms having agents in Christiania can tender.

NETHERLANDS.

Railway Material.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul at Amsterdam, (Mr. W. Robinson) that on the 15th March next the Netherlands Minister for the Colonies at the Hague will receive tenders for the supply of the following material:—

Contract No. 386.—436 axles with wheels, 218 loose axles without wheels, and 100 unfinished bandages for railway carriages.

Contract No. 387.—301 sets of connection- and buffer-arrangements with appurtenances, 133 loose emergency-chains, and 12 loose buffers with join-ends for carriages and waggons.

Contract No. lit. T. 11.—Soft steel.

Contract No. lit. U. 11.—Corrugated and flat galvanised soft steel and top pieces.

Contract No. LXXXIV.—Brake-blocks.

Contract No. LXXXV.—30 axles with spoke-wheels, and 75 loose axles for vehicles.

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Openings for British Trade.

NETHERLANDS—*continued.*

Further particulars may be obtained from the firm of M. Nijhoff, The Hague, on payment of 2 fl. (3*s.* 4*d.*) for each of the Contracts Nos. 386 and 387, and 1 fl. (1*s.* 8*d.*) for each of the remaining Contracts.

Railway Reconstruction Work.

H.M. Consul also notifies that tenders will be received up to the 27th March by the Holland Railway Company for the following work :—

Contract No. 8. The construction of ground-works, artificial works, hardening-works, enclosures, buildings, the laying of the superstructure, the construction of the ballast-bedding, and of additional works, for the reconstruction of the Helder-Amsterdam Railway, in connection with the widening of the railway bridge over the North Sea canal near Zaandam (nieuwe Hembrug), in two lots, the first of fl. 422,000 and the second of fl. 626,000 ; total, fl. 1,048,000 (87,833*l.*).

From the 3rd March particulars of the contract, together with four drawings may be obtained from the Central Administration building of the Holland Railway Company, Droogbak, Amsterdam, on payment (postage-stamps not accepted) of fl. 6 (10*s.*). Applications should be addressed to "Dienst van Weg en Werken, Kamer No. 150," at the above address.

GERMANY—RUSSIA.

Frontier Railway Construction.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Ambassador at Berlin (Sir F. Lascelles, G.C.B., G.C.M.G.), reporting the exchange of ratifications of the two Treaties between Germany and Russia, which were signed on the 6th December last, concerning two frontier railway lines. These Treaties deal with the construction of a railway between the Warsaw-Kalisch line and the Prussian State Railway at Stalmierzyce, as also with the building of a line between the Herby-Czenstochowa railway and the Prussian State line at Herby. [*See* "Board of Trade Journal" of 21st July last, p. 116.] The result will be to facilitate not only local traffic but also internal communications. The length of the various lines to be constructed amount to about 800 kilometres (about 497 miles).

BELGIUM.

Bridgework.

The "Bulletin Commercial" of 25th February publishes a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened at noon on the 5th April, at the "Bourse de Commerce," Brussels, for the demolition of the metallic turning bridge over the Bruges-Ostend Canal at Breedene, and the construction in its place of a metallic fixed bridge, with a lower

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Openings for British Trade.

BELGIUM—*continued.*

passage in masonry. The cost of the work is estimated at 338,349 fr. (about 13,665*l.*). A deposit of 20,000 fr. (about 800*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Particulars and specifications (*cahier des charges spécial No.* 32 *de* 1905), price 8*d.* may be obtained from the principal engineer, M. De Nys, Rue Courte d'Argent, Bruges.

Railway Plant.

The same issue of the "Bulletin" contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened at 11 a.m. on the 29th March, at the offices of the "Société Nationale des Chemins de Fer Vicinaux, 14, Rue de la Science, Brussels," for the construction of a section of the projected railway between La Bouverie and Harvengt. The cost of the work is estimated at 93,071 fr. (about 3,722*l.*). A deposit of 9,000 fr. (about 360*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Tenders in registered envelopes inscribed to the general manager of the railway at the above address, must be posted not later than the 28th March. Specifications, price 1 fr., may be obtained from M. L'Hoir, 30, Boulevard Dolez, Mons.

SPAIN.

Hydro-electric Plant.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 20th February contains a Decree authorising Don Francisco Llibre Mora to appropriate 4,000 litres of water per second from the river Cardoner, at the boundary of Guixes Novas and Obies, for the production of motive power for industrial purposes.

Electric Tramway Plant.

The "Gaceta" of 21st February contains an announcement to the effect that an application, accompanied by a plan and guarantee, having been presented by the Tibidabo Tramway Co. for a concession for an electric tramway from the Tibidabo funicular railway station to the Plaza de Vallvidrera, one month from the date of the publication of the said announcement in the "Gaceta" is allowed for the presentation of applications accompanied by their corresponding plans and guarantees, upon terms more favourable to the Government.

Porcelain Insulators.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 26th February announces that tenders will be opened 30 days after the publication of the notice, at the offices of the Director-General of the Telegraph Department, 10, Calle de Carretas, Madrid, for the supply of 65,000 porcelain double insulators (new Spanish telegraph type) to be delivered in five equal lots at Madrid, Barcelona, Cardova, Valladolid and Saragossa.

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Openings for British Trade.

The maximum price at which tenders will be received is one peseta per insulator. A deposit of 5 per cent. of the value of the goods at the upset price is required to qualify any tender. Local representation is necessary.

The "Gacetas" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

ITALY.

Hydro-Electric Plant.

The "Bollettino delle Finanze" (Rome) of 19th February, states that the Prefect of Novara has recently granted the following concessions for the appropriation of water for industrial purposes:—

1. To Messrs. Vonvillier and Company for an appropriation from the River Sesia, in the Territory of Grignasco and Prato Sesia, for the production of electric power to be transmitted to Cartiera.

2. To the Anza Motive Power Company, 4 Via Piatti, Milan, for an appropriation from the Anza waterfall, in the commune of Calasca, for the production of power for industrial purposes and for electric lighting.

3. To Signor Gualea Alessio for an appropriation from the Pollesina waterfall, in the Territory of Pella, for electric lighting purposes in the commune of Pella and other neighbouring communes.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

Lease of Filatures in Hungary.

An article on the silk industry of Hungary will be found on pp. 402-4 in which particulars are given of the efforts made by the Government to foster the industry. Attention is directed to the paragraph stating that filatures for reeling cocoons have been erected by the Government. These are leased to foreign firms, and the leaseholders are granted exemption from taxes for 15 years, and given the requisite supply of dry cocoons on very favourable terms.

ROUMANIA.

Insulators: Brass and Copper Wire.

A communication has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from the British Legation at Bucharest, stating that the Roumanian Administration of Ports and Telegraphs invite tenders for (1) 14,000 large, 8,000 medium, and 30,000 small, porcelain insulators; (2) 13,000 kilogs. of silicate brass wire of 3 m/m diameter, and 120 kilogs. of soft copper wire

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of 1·5 m/m diameter. Tenders for (1) will be opened on 16th March, and for (2) on 29th March.

Copies of the specifications (in French) may be consulted at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

SERVIA.

Railway Plant: Quay and Warehouse Construction: Water pipes.

According to a report recently received at Brussels from the Belgian Legation at Belgrade, the Servian Government are about to undertake several important public works; these include the construction of light railways, the building of a quay and warehouses in Belgrade, and the improvement of the drainage and water supply of that city. Tenders were invited last year for the construction of railways, 0·76 metre gauge; but very few tenders were received, and no adjudication took place. Tenders will be invited in the near future for the supply of rolling stock and metallic bridgework. If all the Government projects are carried out, 1,200 kilom. of railway will be constructed; all the materials will have to be imported.

OTTOMAN EMPIRE.

Office Materials and Paper.

The following particulars of the trade in office materials and paper at Constantinople are taken from the "Bulletin" of the French Chamber of Commerce in that city:—

Official statistics afford no information as to the importation of these articles, but according to figures gathered by the Chamber, the imports during 1903 were as follow:—Writing paper, 1,008,634 kilogs.; writing and printing ink, 79,105 kilogs.; notepaper in boxes, envelopes and pens, 69,734 kilogs.; ledgers, 38,428 kilogs.; school materials, 9,931 kilogs.; copying presses, 5,002 kilogs.; other office materials, 57,386 kilogs.

Imitation parchment is generally used for commercial purposes, this comes mainly from Germany, a certain amount from Austria, and a small quantity of the better kind from France. The high class paper used in the Government offices is imported exclusively from the United Kingdom. Fancy notepaper in boxes is brought chiefly from France and Berlin; a small quantity is imported from London for the use of the British colony. Typewriting paper, which formerly came entirely from the United States, is now imported from France, the latter country being able to make a paper as good as the American article, and 50 per cent. cheaper. About a thousand reams of blotting paper are imported annually, Austria and France sending the major portion; a very small quantity comes from the United Kingdom.

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Openings for British Trade.

The United Kingdom heads the list of countries importing steel pens; France, Germany and Austria also send these articles, of which about 20,000 boxes are imported annually. Quill pens, which are greatly in demand, come mainly from France. Steel pens are never used for Turkish calligraphy. Nearly all the pencils and indiarubber used are sent from Nuremberg.

Ink is imported chiefly from the United Kingdom and Austria, the annual figure being estimated at 10,000 gross of bottles. Blue-black is the favourite colour; there is also a good demand for violet ink, some schools using this colour exclusively. All the ink used for Turkish writing is manufactured locally.

A large number of ledgers are imported, mainly from France, Hanover and Milan. Most of the copybooks used in schools are made in the country.

There is a growing demand for typewriters, which hitherto has been met from the United States.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Panama Canal Supplies.

With reference to the notice which appeared at pp. 107-8 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 19th January last on the subject of tenders, on c.i.f. terms, called for by the Isthmian Canal Commission for sundry supplies in connection with the construction of the Canal, the following paragraph from the letter of Mr. Taft, Secretary of War, under whose supervision the work of the Commission was placed, dated 12th January, submitting the report of the Commission to the President of the United States, may be of interest:—

"An important question of policy is yet to be determined. If "the Isthmian Canal Commission are not bound by any restriction "of Congress as to where they shall purchase machinery, material, "and supplies, then it would seem to be their duty to construct "the canal as cheaply as possible, and so to buy what they need "where they can get it cheapest. This, however, is certain to "produce, every time that a large contract is awarded to a foreign "manufacturer or dealer, an outcry on the part of the American "unsuccessful competitors. If Congress approves the policy of "favouring American manufacturers and dealers, even if it "increase the cost of the construction of the Canal, then it seems "to me only just that it should declare this policy by law and lay "down a rule which the Commission can easily follow."

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—PHILIPPINES.

Railway Material.

With reference to the notice in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 5th January, pp. 30-1, respecting the proposed new railways in the Philippines, a despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Embassy at Washington, forwarding copies of an Act of Congress, approved by the President on the 6th February, which,

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among other provisions, confers upon the Government of the Philippines the power to guarantee bonds issued for purposes of railway construction in the islands to the extent of 4 per cent. on 30,000,000 dollars (about 6,000,000*l.*).

ARGENTINA.

Hydraulic Cranes: Electric Accumulator: Automatic Weighing Machines: Mooring Cables: Anchors.

The "Boletin Oficial" of Argentina of 26th January publishes a Decree anthorising the Minister of Public Works to expend 56,100 gold pesos (about 11,220*l.*) on the following articles, to be used in adapting the military port at Buenos Aires to commercial purposes:—4 hydraulic cranes, 1 electric accumulator, 4 automatic weighing machines, 13 mooring cables and 8 anchors, together with the necessary accessories to these articles.

All these goods are to be purchased in Europe through the Argentine Legation in London, whither plans and specifications are to be forwarded.

Machinery for Steam and Petroleum Launches: Disinfecting Apparatus.

The "Boletin" of 27th January publishes a Decree authorising the construction of four steam launches and one petroleum motor launch for the Public Health Department, three of the former to be fitted with a Clayton disinfecting apparatus: a Clayton storage apparatus is also to be purchased. The total expenditure provided for in the Decree is 200,000 pesos, national currency, (about 18,750*l.*). The shells of these boats are to be constructed by the Argentine Naval Department, but the machinery and fittings are to be purchased in Europe.

The "Boletins" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

FORTHCOMING EXHIBITION.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

International Exhibition of Automobiles and Motor boats.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified that an international exhibition of automobiles and motor boats will be held at Budapest, from 7th to 21st May next, under the auspices of the Hungarian Automobile Club. All articles of motor sport, and garments and accessories, will be included in the display.

From a Circular issued in connection with this exhibition, it appears that Messrs. Louis Felberman (Knight of the Imperial Order of Francis Joseph) and Joseph Offord, M.S.B.A., 92,

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Openings for British Trade.

Gloucester Road, South Kensington, S.W., have been appointed by the Executive Committee to represent the Exhibitors' interests in this country, and also to assist would-be exhibitors in taking part in the display.

The lake in the city park of Budapest will be specially reserved for motor boat competitions. It is said that the vast waterways of Hungary are most suitable for this form of propulsion.

EMPIRE GROWN COTTON.

Samples on view at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

The British Cotton Growing Association have forwarded a number of samples of Empire Grown Cotton for exhibition at the Sample Room in the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

These samples are now on view at the Sample Room named, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays 10 to 1).

SILK INDUSTRY OF HUNGARY.

The following particulars of the silk industry of Hungary are taken from a pamphlet issued by the Hungarian Section of the St. Louis Exhibition:—

Throughout the eighteenth and the greater part of the nineteenth centuries, all efforts to foster the silk industry in Hungary proved of no avail, and by the year 1879 it had almost disappeared from the Kingdom. But it had been clearly proved that the climate of Hungary and the economic conditions were most favourable for the work, and this led the Government in 1880 to make a fresh effort. A special department for the development of the industry is now established with headquarters at Szezgard.

Supply of silk-worm eggs.—An establishment for the supply of the best silk-worms' eggs has been erected in connection with the above department. Here over 1,700 kilos. of Hungarian eggs are produced annually, and 800 kilos. of the best French and Italian eggs are imported in order to maintain the vigour of the race. All the eggs, native and imported, are subjected to careful microscopic examination. The Government reserve to themselves the sole right to supply silk-worms' eggs in Hungary. Up to 1904, 2,143 kilos. of eggs had been distributed gratuitously to rearers.

Supply of mulberry leaf.—During the last twenty years the Government have distributed 56,221,160 mulberry trees, two to three years old, to Agrarian Schools, or for hedging, and 3,787,275 mulberry trees, full grown.

They maintain, at their own expense, 168 nurseries for mulberry trees and supervise 5,363 Agrarian Schools, which are obliged to

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set apart two-thirds of their land for mulberry cultivation. A law enacts that in all communes suitable for sericulture all unoccupied land and the sides of all roads shall be planted with mulberry. The Government place at the disposal of the rearers, free of charge, 80 per cent. of the mulberry trees on public land.

Instruction in Sericulture.—In each sericultural commune there is a Government Superintendent, whose duty is not only to distribute the eggs, but also to give full instructions to rearers and watch over their work from the hatching onwards. There are also District Inspectors and Chief Inspectors, with assistants, appointed to see that the Superintendents carry out their duties properly. 500,000 pamphlets are distributed gratuitously every year, giving instructions on the rearing of the worms, and the cultivation of the mulberry. Free lectures have been given annually in over 1,500 communes, illustrated by 150 dissolving views showing how the work should be done. Now that silk is cultivated in 3,000 communes, a lecture will be given every second year in each.

Cocoons.—The Government undertake to purchase all the cocoons produced. For the convenience of the rearers, 141 stations have been established where cocoons are received. As soon as the cocoons are bought, they are sent to a drying house, where the chrysalis is killed, and the cocoons thereafter are sorted according to quality. There are 26 of these houses, each capable of containing 80,000 to 100,000 kilos. of fresh cocoons. In the older houses the chrysalis is killed by steam, and the cocoons are afterwards dried by hot air. In the newer houses, the whole operation is done by hot air, which gives much better results than the former process.

Filatures.—At first the Government devoted their attention solely to the development of cocoon production. But as in certain classes of the population, there exist special qualifications for work in filatures, it did not seem reasonable that the cocoons should all leave the country, and the work of reeling them be given to foreigners, when it could be as well, or better, done at home. Also it was desirable that the high natural quality of Hungarian silk should be known, and this could be most effectually ensured by reeling the cocoons in the country. With these objects in view the Government erected filatures at the following places:—Tolna, 120 basins; Ujvidek, 152 basins: Pancsova, 120 basins; Györ, 120 basins; Komarom, 156 basins; Lugos, 120 basins; Mohacs, 120 basins. The filature at Tolna is retained in the Government's hands for the purpose of training managers, &c. The remaining filatures are let to private firms. The Government lease the filatures to foreign firms, grant the leaseholders exemption from taxes for 15 years, and give the requisite supply of dry cocoons on very favourable terms, viz., at 50 cents per kilo. below the average price for the month in Milan. In choosing the sites for filatures, special

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consideration has been given to the properties of the water obtainable. That of the Danube, the Temes and the Theiss, with their affluents, and the canals which join the Danube and the Theiss, has been found eminently suited for silk reeling, and sites have accordingly been selected on them. In the most recent filature, viz., Komarom, a new method of water circulation has been adopted, the water from the basins being filtered and used again after being mixed with an equal quantity of warm water. This is found to render the water all the softer and better for the work.

Weaving.—Manufactories have been erected at Kula, Wimpassing, and St. Gothard. The Government desire to see this branch of the work increased, and offer the following advantages for the construction of factories. Exemption from taxes for 15 years, and an annual subsidy for 10 consecutive years of 10, 20, or 30 thousand francs, according to the importance of the factory.

Labour.—The Hungarian operatives are intelligent, quick to learn, and tractable. They belong to the families of the small trading classes, which are better educated than the agricultural population. They are trained to silk reeling under female overseers and hands from the places in Italy where the best silk is made. Wages are the same as in Italy, and less than in France. The working day is fixed by law at 12 hours, but none of the filatures work more than 11 hours, which is ample for a daily production of 600 grammes of silk of first quality per basin.

The following statistics show the results of the measures taken by the Government on behalf of this industry:—

Production of Cocoons and Silk.

Year.	Number of		Cocoon Crop.	Raw Silk Reeled.
	Communes.	Breeders.		
			Kilos.	Kilos.
1879	—	—	2,507	166
1885	751	13,859	176,337	12,000
1890	1,942	66,525	1,043,096	70,000
1895	2,620	94,865	1,499,845	100,000
1903	2,884	107,702	1,707,205	114,000

MINERAL PRODUCTION OF THE UNITED STATES IN 1904.

The following table shows the quantity and value of the mineral production of the United States in 1904 according to figures compiled by the "Engineering and Mining Journal" (New York). Comparative figures for the preceding year are given, but these, it may be noted, differ slightly from the official figures of the Geological Survey reproduced in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 1st December last:—

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Mineral Production of the United States in 1904.

	1903.		1904.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Non-Metallic—		Dollars.		Dollars.
Arsenic, white ... ... Short ton	611	35,028	498	29,504
Barytes ... ... "	50,397	152,150	22,502	74,736
Bauxite ... ... Long ton	48,087	171,306	48,966	189,325
Bromine ... ... Lb.	597,000	170,140	897,100	315,985
Carborundum ... ... "	4,760,000	476,000	7,000,000	700,000
Cement, natural hydraulic Bbl. (*a*)	7,030,271	3,675,520	5,000,000	2,500,000
" Portland... ... " (*b*)	22,342,973	27,713,319	22,000,000	20,900,000
Coal, anthracite ... ... Short ton	75,288,206	158,100,232	69,749,962	149,990,870
" bituminous (*c*) ... "	277,076,986	327,075,530	273,774,922	316,763,701
Coke ... ... "	25,262,360	66,459,623	23,500,000	56,400,000
Cobalt oxide ... ... Lb.	120,000	228,000	100,000	215,000
Copper sulphate (*d*) ... "	43,124,454	1,811,227	63,309,394	2,849,484
Copperas (*j*) ... ... Short ton	20,240	121,440	12,404	868,315
Crushed steel ... ... "	378	52,850	395	55,300
Fluorspar ... ... "	42,523	213,617	26,180	153,081
Garnet ... ... "	4,413	146,955	3,363	99,463
Graphite, artificial ... Lb.	2,620,000	178,670	3,195,251	221,686
" crystalline ... "	4,525,700	164,247	4,594,282	173,120
Iron ore ... ... Long ton	32,471,550	55,201,635	29,366,654	36,708,318
Lead, white ... ... Short ton	112,700	12,228,024	118,079	11,807,900
" red ... ... "	12,300	1,385,900	13,800	1,759,500
" orange mineral ... "	1,000	168,000	800	124,000
Limestone and dolomite flux ... ... Long ton	12,029,719	5,423,732	8,788,000	3,515,200
Litharge ... ... Short ton	12,400	1,326,800	14,200	1,597,500
Phosphate rock ... ... Long ton	1,570,228	4,993,912	1,782,503	5,703,582
Pyrites ... ... "	199,387	787,759	181,763	647,276
Sulphur ... ... "	39,310	789,738	191,250	8,139,600
Zinc-lead ... ... Short ton	4,500	253,125	6,781	398,384
" oxide... ... ... "	54,034	5,005,394	58,808	5,513,838
" ore exported ... "	39,418	987,000	31,392	882,516
Total non-metallic	—	675,496,873	—	629,295,184
Metallic—				
Aluminium ... ... Lb.	7,500,000	2,325,700	Not stated.	
Antimony (*e*) ... ... "	6,174,000	389,579	4,633,036	301,147
Bismuth ... ... "	Nil.	—	(*f*) 10,891	22,871
Copper ... ... "	639,045,796	(*g*) 90,726,660	748,540,800	(*h*) 95,588,660
Gold ... ... Troy oz.	3,560,000	73,591,700	4,090,532	84,551,300
Iron, pig ... ... Long ton	18,009,252	288,148,032	16,563,938	219,474,679
Lead ... ... Short ton	276,694	23,447,050	313,553	27,021,997
Nickel ... ... Lb.	114,200	45,900	100,000	47,000
Platinum ... ... Troy oz.	110	2,080	120	2,340
Quicksilver ... ... Flask (*i*)	37,866	1,564,734	43,499	1,783,459
Silver ... ... Troy oz.	54,300,000	29,322,000	53,603,000	30,672,173
Zinc ... ... Short ton	158,502	17,118,216	176,849	18,038,598
Total metallic...	—	526,681,651	—	477,504,224

(*a*) Barrel of 300 lbs. (*b*) Barrel of 380 lbs. (*c*) Includes cannel. (*d*) Includes a small amount made from metallic copper. (*e*) Existing only as a constituent (20 per cent.) of hard lead. (*f*) Bismuth contents of ore mined, but not smelted in the United States. (*g*) Average value of lake copper at New York, less 0·25 c. per pound. (*h*) Average price at New York of lake and electrolytic copper. (*i*) Flask of 75 lbs. (*j*) Includes only that marketed as copperas.

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TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

NATAL.

Special Duties on Importation of Bounty-fed Sugar.

With reference to a notice which appeared in the "Board of Trade Journal" for 25th August last, relating to the imposition of special (additional) duties under Government Notice No. 473 of 1904 on bounty-fed sugar imported into Natal, the Board of Trade have now received a further Government Notice (No. 55 of 1905), cancelling that of 1904 (No. 473), and at the same time laying down revised Customs Regulations dealing with the importation of sugar into Natal from countries which are not parties to the Brussels Convention of 1902.

Under the present Regulations the following special (additional) duties over and above the ordinary duties and surcharge, have been fixed provisionally for the under-mentioned countries :—

Countries.		Sugar.	
		Raw.	Refined.
		s. d.	s. d.
Denmark	Per 100 lbs.	0 7½	1 3
Spain	"	9 8½	9 8½
Japan	"	—	0 11¼*
Argentine Republic	"	18 0	18 0
Roumania	"	6 4½	8 1
Russia	"	2 2¾	2 11¼
Chili	"	2 1¾	4 9

* Candied sugar.

In order to secure the carrying out of the foregoing regulations, any person importing into Natal any sugar for consumption, refining, or manufacture, must produce, for the purpose of proving the country of origin or manufacture of the said sugar, to the proper officer of Customs, at the election of the latter :—

(*a*) A signed statement by the suppliers on the Invoice, or otherwise; or

(*b*) A certificate of origin, duly signed by the producers or manufacturers; or

(*c*) Such other or further evidence as such Officers of Customs may require.

In the event of sugar coming under the heading of "refined" sugar, originating from a factory established in a non-contracting State, the evidence must show that such sugar is manufactured in a factory not utilising sugar originating from a State liable to special duty.

If the evidence required by the above regulations is not forth-

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NATAL—*continued.*

coming at the time of importation, the goods must be immediately re-exported under the supervision of the Customs Officers, or deposited, under detention, in an approved Customs warehouse until such evidence is obtained.

The following is the Form of Certificate prescribed to obtain the admission of sugar from States not granting bounties on sugar, without subjection to the special duty imposed under Article 5 of the Customs Union Convention, and Section 7 of the Natal Act 14 of 1903:—

(1) I, ..., the manufacturer (or producer) (or supplier) of the sugar mentioned in this invoice, have the means of knowing, and do hereby certify that the said sugar is the produce or manufacture of (2).....(and I hereby certify that said sugar was manufactured in a factory not utilising sugar originating from a State liable to the special duty). (3)

Signed.....

(1) Full name.
(2) Name of country in which the sugar was made or produced.
(3) This further certificate is to be given when such sugar emanates from a factory established in a non-contracting State.

BRITISH EAST AFRICA AND UGANDA PROTECTORATES.

Importation of Agricultural Implements.

A copy of the "Official Gazette of the East Africa and Uganda Protectorates" for 15th January last has been received which contains a Notice, issued by the Chief of Customs at Mombasa on 19th January last, notifying the articles which will be classed under the head of agricultural implements, and can, consequently, be imported free of duty into the Protectorates.

The list of articles is given in *extenso*, and may be consulted by persons interested on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

JAMAICA.

Export Duty on Rum: Jamaica Rum Protection Law.

The Board of Trade have received from the Government of Jamaica a copy of "The Jamaica Rum Protection Law, 1904" (No. 26 of 1904), which was passed on 1st September, 1904, with a view to protecting Jamaica rums from imitations and frauds either in the United Kingdom, and elsewhere.

The Law provides for the appointment of a properly qualified person to institute proceedings and undertake the prosecution in the United Kingdom, and elsewhere, of offences under the provisions of the Imperial Merchandise Marks Acts, 1887 and 1891.

For the purposes of the present Law, a duty of 10*d.* per puncheon

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

JAMAICA—*continued.*

is leviable upon Jamaica rum exported from the Colony, and the amounts collected are to be paid into the "Jamaica Rum Protection Account."

It is further provided that the salary and expenses of the officer appointed to carry out the provisions of the above Law shall not, in any year, exceed an amount of 250*l.* beyond the amount of revenue derived from the export duty imposed thereby.

The Law is to remain in force for a period not exceeding five years from 1st August, 1904.

HONG KONG.

Sugar Convention Ordinance, 1904.

A copy of the Sugar Convention Ordinance, 1904 (No. 14 of 1904) has been received, which was assented to by the Governor on 31st October last, for the purpose of giving effect to Article VIII. of the Brussels Sugar Convention of 1902.

By Article 2 of the present Ordinance, it is provided that the importation of bounty-fed sugar into the Colony shall be prohibited.

Importation of Compounds of Opium.

The Board of Trade have received from the Governor of Hong Kong a copy of "The Prepared Opium Amendment Ordinance, 1904" (No. 10 of 1904) which was assented to by the Governor on the 28th September last.

The present Ordinance amends the "Prepared Opium Ordinance, 1891," and provides that the Governor-in-Council may grant conditional licences for importing, preparing, manufacturing, or dealing in "compounds" of opium in the Colony.

For each licence there must be paid an annual fee of 25 dols., which is to be awarded to the opium farmer.

Every importer of any "compound of opium" shall make a declaration before the Superintendent of Imports and Exports as to the amount of opium contained therein, and when such opium is intended for sale or use in the Colony, a royalty at the rate of 3 dols. per tael (1⅓ oz. av.) of opium, must be paid to the opium farmer.

The Governor-in-Council may, at his discretion, exempt any medicine containing opium manufactured in or imported from Europe, America, or the British Colonies from the payment of the above royalty.

It is laid down in the present Ordinance that the expression "compound of opium" shall mean any compound which does not come within the definition of "prepared opium,"* and which contains opium, or any constituent or alkaloid thereof, however the original form of such opium may have been altered.

* By the principal Ordinance of 1891, "prepared opium" is defined to mean opium which has been subject to any degree of artificial heat for any purpose whatever.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

PERAK.

Revised Export Duties on Tin.

A copy of the "Perak Government Gazette" for 18th October last has been received, containing a Customs Notification (No. 1,291 of 1904) to the effect that, on and after 1st November, 1904, the export duties on tin, tin ore, and manufactured tin, imposed under Notification 943 of 1903, and as amended by Notification No. 665 of 1904, shall be cancelled; and, at the same time, providing for the imposition of revised duties on those articles on exportation from Perak.

The following statement shows the rates of export duty imposed under the present Notification, together with the old rates previously in force:—

Articles.	Export Duties.	
	Old Rates.	New Rates.
Tin—		
Alluvial tin—	Dols. cts.	Dols. cts.
When the price of tin exceeds 31 dols. per pikul up to 32 dols.... Per bhara	10 50	10 00
[For each rise of 1 dol. per pikul in the price of tin above 32 dols. and up to 38 dols. per pikul, the export duty is increased 25 cts. per bhara, and when above 38 dols. per pikul the duty is increased by 50 cts. per bhara. The duty is reckoned on the price telegraphed daily from Penang.]		
Lode tin	Half the above rate—subject to a minimum of 5 % *ad val.*	
Tin ore—		
If exported under such guarantees as the Resident may require that it will be smelted in the Colony of the Straits Settlements or in the United Kingdom	68 % of the duty on tin	70 % of the duty on tin
If exported without such guarantees... ...	" *	" *
Manufactured tin	The same as tin.	

* With an additional duty of 30 dols. per pikul.

An additional duty of 50 cents per pikul is levied, as heretofore, upon tin raised for export from such mines within the District of Batang Padang as may from time to time be certified in writing by the Warden of Mines to be gold-producing mines. Tin exported from Upper Perak and New Territory, two-thirds of the current rate.

The fee for weighing tin and tin ore is reduced by the present Notification from 3 to 2 cents per pikul of 133⅓ lbs.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

GERMANY.

Alteration in Tare Rates.

The following alterations, which are to come into force on the 1st April next, have recently been authorised by the Bundesrath in respect of the tare allowances on certain articles imported into Germany:—

Tariff No.	Articles.	Method of Packing.	Tare Rate in percentage of gross weight.	
			Old.	New.
25 (*e*) 2 (*d*)	Sparkling wines in bottles.	In baskets of 40 kilogs. and less	15	14
	" "	In baskets of over 40 kilogs.	11	10
25 (*g*) 1	Pickled beef	In barrels of hard wood with 6 iron hoops, over 200 kilogs. gross weight...	16	13
25 (*x*)	Cane sugar	In barrels with staves of hard wood...	14	8

FRANCE.

Imports of Coffee from the Ivory Coast.

The French "Journal Officiel" for the 18th February contains the text of a Presidential Decree fixing at 60,000 kilogs. the quantity of coffee, the produce of the Ivory Coast, which may be admitted into France at a reduced rate of duty during the year 1905.

ITALY.

Forthcoming Tariff Alterations consequent on new Treaty with Switzerland (*continued from p.* 366 *of last week's "Journal."*)

Tariff No.	Description of Articles.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs.	
		At present.	From 1st July.
		Lire cts.	Lire cts.
Ex 225 (*h*) & (*i*) (3)	Carpet nails with shank of iron and head of other common metals, even gilt or silvered—		
	Neither gilt nor silvered	75 00	50 00
	Gilt or silvered	120 00	
228 (*d*)	Lead and its alloys with antimony—		
	Printing type	18 00	No change.*
Ex 235 (*a*)	Ferro-silicon, in a raw state, containing more than 14 per cent. and not more than 75 per cent. of silicon	5 00	1 00

* The conventional duty of 18 lire is also applicable to printing type of lead with "*coquille*" of tinned copper.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ITALY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Description of Articles.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs. At present.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs. From 1st July.
		Lire cts.	Lire cts.
Ex 239	Machine-tools for working wood and metals, weighing more than 300 kilogs.	9 00	No change.
Ex 240 (*a*)	Machinery*—		
	Steam engines—		
	(1) Fixed, without boiler	12 00	"
	Ex (2) Semi-fixed (with boiler), hot air, compressed air, gas, [benzine†] and petroleum motors (including rotary motors), weighing more than 300 kilogs.	12 00	"
Ex (*b*)	Hydraulic machinery and water motors...	10 00	"
	Note.—The following are included under hydraulic machinery: turbines, hydraulic wheels, pulsometers, pumps and elevators, presses, accumulators, lifts, hydraulic jacks, &c.		
	Chambers of turbines with the pipe connecting the chamber to the inlet water conduct; the iron framework of the turbine; the mechanism of the sluice valves and gratings (conformably to the drawing annexed to the Treaty of 1892); will be considered as integral parts of turbines and will be subject to the same treatment.		

* In virtue of the new Treaty with Switzerland, machines are dutiable at the duties established in No. 240, even when imported in detached parts, and whether the parts arrive in one or in different shipments, or loaded on one or on several waggons, provided that the plans or complete drawings, as well as a list specifying the important parts, their nature, and the approximate weight of each, and also the approximate total weight of the accessory parts, be presented therewith. If, after the clearance of some detached parts of machines, the remaining parts be not imported, the parts already imported will pay the duties established for detached parts of machines (No. 241 *a* and *c*), or, if there be no special provision for such parts, duties according to kind.

When presenting his first partial consignment, the importer must name the time within which the clearance of the machine is to be accomplished; such time cannot exceed six months [one year, at present]. Partial importations of this kind must be cleared at one and the same Custom house.

Incomplete machines, *i.e.* those lacking some part necessary for their action, or some accessory part, are subject to the duties established for the respective machines. No distinction will be made with regard to the materials of which the machines are composed. Machines, or detached parts thereof, may be polished, painted, varnished, or otherwise worked, and will not, on account of the special work they have been subjected to, undergo any change with respect to classification. Spare parts always pay the appropriate duties.

The Customs reserve the right to demand, until the final settlement is made for such partial importations, a guarantee for the duties to be eventually paid at the highest rate, and to attach an identifying mark to the imported parts; and likewise to satisfy themselves, by an examination made at the expense of the importer after the machine is set up, that all the partial consignments really belong to the said machine.

† Added in new Treaty.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ITALY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Description of Articles.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs. At present.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs. From 1st July.
		Lire cts.	Lire cts.
Ex 240	Machinery—*contd.*—		
Ex (*f*)	Agricultural—		
	(1) Haymaking machinery... ...	9 00	4 00
	(2) Fruit and grape presses ...	9 00	No change.
(*g*)	Spinning machinery—		
	Cards, not fitted	10 00	6 00
	Other	8 00	
	Note.—The conventional duty established for spinning machinery is to be applicable to all machinery treated as spinning machinery in the current "*Repertorio*" to the Italian Customs Tariff, *i.e.* (*a*) machines for the preparation of textile substances for spinning, and for other operations preliminary to spinning (including cards; but card-fittings are separately dutiable under No. 244); (*b*) machines for spinning (and twisting) proper; (*c*) machines for dressing and finishing yarns or threads (except for dyeing, bleaching, and printing; which are dutiable under No. 240 *l*).		
(*h*)	(1) Machines and looms for weaving ...	7 00	6 00
	Note.—The conventional duty is to be applied to all machines (except hosiery looms) comprised under No. 240 *h* of the Tariff, according to the current "*Repertorio*" to the Italian Customs Tariff, *i.e.*, machinery for processes preliminary or supplementary to weaving, as well as for weaving itself.		
	(2) Hosiery looms	10 00	7 00
Ex (*i*)	Dynamo-electric machinery—		
	(1) Weighing more than 1,000 kilogs.	16 00	No change.
	(2) Weighing 1,000 kilogs. or less ...	25 00	"
Ex (*i*)	Apparatus for the application of electricity (tension regulators, switches, resistances, interruptors, commutators, controllers, speed regulators, cut-offs, lightning conductors, &c.)		
	(1) Weighing 100 kilogs. or less ...	30 00	30 00
	(2) Weighing more than 100 kilogs.	30 00	25 00
Ex (*i*)	Electric accumulators	8 00	16 00
	[Metallic parts thereof*]	5 or 25 lire	
Ex (*i*)	Electric transformers, with or without oil...	16 00† / 25 00‡	25 00
Ex (*j*)	Knitting machines (manual or power), with or without stands	20 00	8 00

* Added in New Treaty.
† More than 1,000 kilogs.
‡ 1,000 kilogs. or less.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ITALY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Description of Articles.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs. At present.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs. From 1st July.
Ex 240 *Ex* (*l*)	Machinery—*contd.*—		
	Not specially mentioned—	Lire cts.	Lire cts.
	(1) Refrigerating machines; machines for the manufacture of aërated waters; paper cutting [or perforating*] machines; brick making machines; pneumatic machines for industrial purposes; polishing machines; ventilators with mechanical movements; machines for bleaching and dyeing; machines for the manufacture of alimentary pastes; transmission gearing	10 00	No change.
	(2) Machines and apparatus for the manufacture of paper and paper pulp, (including sifters, rag-beaters, rag-cutters, rag-boilers (not including boilers for the preparation of chemical pulp), cylinder engines, rollers, cutters, glazers, moisteners, calenders, sizing machines, heckling machines, rag-engines, sorting machines, and pulp presses)	8 00	6 00
	(3) Machines for mills	7 00	6 00
	(4) Pumps for liquid manure, with galvanised pipes	10 00	4 00
Ad 240	*Note.*—Machines of all kinds actuated by dynamo-electric machines, but separable therefrom, pay the appropriate duties separately from the dynamo-electric machine.		
	Machines mentioned in the present Treaty, actuated by dynamo-electric machines and forming a single entity with them, are dutiable as follows:—		
	Weighing more than 1,000 kilogs., 13 lire per 100 kilogs.		
	Weighing 1,000 kilogs. or less, 19 lire per 100 kilogs.		
	To enjoy the benefit of these duties, the importer is required to prove by means of a certificate delivered by the factory, that the motor is not the preponderating part of the whole machine.		
	The importer may also claim to have machines consisting of *separable* portions, of which one is dynamo-electric, tariffed at the rates of 13 or 19 lire per 100 kilogs., as the case may be; if the duty so payable is not less than the cumulative duties on the separate parts.		

* Added in new Treaty.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

TURKEY.

Prohibition of Export of Draught Cattle.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, information to the effect that a Decree has been issued by the Turkish Government prohibiting the exportation from the ports of Smyrna, Salonica, Beirut and Alexandretta, of oxen and buffaloes suitable for draught purposes.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Regulations Respecting the Labelling of Certain Imported Food Products.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy of a Circular of the United States Department of Agriculture, which contains regulations respecting the labelling of the undermentioned food products:—

(i.) Food products artificially coloured with sulphate of copper or other substances, or to which sulphate of copper has been added.

(ii.) Food products in the manufacture of which glucose has been used.

(iii.) Food products prepared with, or packed in, oil. (In the case of countries where olive oil is the common edible oil, the term "oil" will be understood to mean "olive oil.")

A copy of the Circular may be seen by persons interested on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

Customs Decisions.

The following is a list of some decisions affecting the application of the United States Customs Tariff which have recently been issued by the Treasury Department at Washington:—

Stove polish composed of plumbago (graphite), or of plumbago mixed with water and traces of turpentine, is dutiable at the rate of 20 per cent. *ad valorem* as an unenumerated manufactured article under section 6 of the Tariff.

Lithographed show cards and placards composed of cardboard are dutiable as lithographic prints under the provisions of paragraph 400 of the Tariff, according to the thickness of the articles, and not according to the thickness of the particular sheet of paper forming the top or front of the articles, and bearing the lithographic imprint.

Drilled pearls, exceptional as to size and fineness, and arranged according to size, as in a necklace, but which are not shown to have been advanced to a special value beyond the aggregate of their individual values by an assortment and selection which fitted them for immediate transformation into a string of pearls, and which required to be re-bored and in some instances re-polished, resemble "pearls in their natural state," within the meaning of the similitude clause in section 7 of the Tariff, and are accordingly

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

dutiable under paragraph 436 of the Tariff at the rate of 10 per cent. *ad valorem.*

[This modifies the decision published at p. 72 of the "Journal" for the 10th July, 1902.]

"*Schappe*" *silk yarns*, produced from waste silk degummed by the "maceration" process, are dutiable as spun silk under paragraph 385 of the Tariff.

Steel floor plates with one side checkered to prevent slipping are dutiable as "plates not specially provided for" under paragraph 135 of the Tariff.

Reciprocity Agreements.—(1) *Fruits in spirits.*—The reduction in duty on "brandies or other spirits manufactured or distilled from grain or other materials," which is provided in the reciprocal commercial agreement with France, is not applicable to the alcohol found in fruit in spirits, which, under paragraph 263 of the Tariff, is dutiable at the rate of 2·50 dols. per proof gallon when exceeding 10 per cent.

(2). *Alcoholic bitters.*—"Amer Picon" and other alcoholic bitters used as beverages are entitled to the reduction of duty accorded to spirits under the reciprocity agreement with France.

Also the following—

Articles.	Paragraph of the Tariff under which dutiable.	Rate of Duty.
		Dols. Cts.
Gloves partly manufactured—Tranks. Lambskin pieces, cut to such shapes that when fitted together they constitute all the parts of a glove and showing in themselves the outline of a glove, with the thumb holes cut and the finger shapes also cut; dutiable as partly manufactured gloves	—	Various rates.
Thread waste, composed of cotton and jute, the jute being from 15 to 25 per cent. in quantity, and being of much less value than the cotton, and the entire mixture being known in trade as "cotton waste"	537	Free.
Silk gauze and chiffon bands. Woven silk fabrics in the piece, not exceeding 12 inches in width, known as "chiffon bands," "bandes mousselin," "gauze bands," "gauze ribbons," etc.; dutiable as manufactures of silk, not specially provided for	391	50 % *ad val.*
Lanolin, adeps lanae hydrous, and *adeps lanae anhydrous* (preparations of wool grease); dutiable as non-alcoholic medicinal preparations ...	68	25 % "
Benzine soap, composed of soap mixed with benzole, and used in solution with benzine or gasoline for cleansing silk and other delicate fabrics; dutiable as soap	72	20 % "
Discs for making gramophone records; dutiable as "manufactures of metal not specially provided for"	193	45 % "

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

Countervailing Duty on Petroleum, &c.

The countervailing duty provided in paragraph 626 of the Tariff is governed by the duty which would be imposed by the foreign country on the day the Government's custody over imported merchandise ceases and the importer is entitled to the possession of the same, and not at the date of the arrival of the goods at the port of entry.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

New Valuation Tariff: Principal Modifications.

The following is a statement of the principal alterations affecting the import duties on hardware, tools, electrical goods, lamps, &c., in the Argentine Republic, which have been introduced by the new Valuation Tariff* of that country:—

(NOTE.—New classifications are indicated by *italic* type.)

No. in New Valuation Tariff.	Articles.	Unit.	Valuation.		Duty.
			Former.	Present.	
	SECTION XIII.—HARDWARE, &c., SHIPS' STORES, WOODEN ARTICLES, AND MACHINES.		Pesos.	Pesos.	
730	Tin openers of iron or steel, in the form of scissors ...	Kilog.	1·50	1·20	25 % *ad val.*
736	Needles for sewing bales, sacks, sails, and mattresses...	"	1·00	0·80	25 % "
	Wire of iron or steel, not galvanised—				
739	Up to No. 14, inclusive...	"	0·05	0·04	5 % "
	Wire of iron or steel, galvanised—				
741	Up to No. 14, inclusive...	"	0·06	0·05	5 % "
744	Barbed, for fences ...	"	0·07	0·06	5 % "
745	Twisted, " ...	"	Not stated	0·07	5 % "
756	Pliers of iron or steel, including those in the form of pincers and shears for cutting wire...	"	1·20	1·00	25 % "
766	Anchors of iron	"	0·10	0·08	25 % "
768	Loading tackle, including pulleys, with or without chain...	"	0·20	0·15	25 % "
795	Buckets, tubs, or vats, of galvanised iron	"	0·15	0·11	25 % "
	Augers and gimlets—				
798	Hand, with handles and drills	"	0·80	0·70	25 % "
799	Assorted, screw or spiral...	"	2·00	1·50	25 % "

* *See* "Board of Trade Journal" for 9th February, p. 273.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC—*continued.*

No. in New Valuation Tariff.	Articles.	Unit.	Valuation. Former.	Valuation. Present.	Duty.
			Pesos.	Pesos.	
829	Axle-boxes of iron of all kinds	Kilog.	0·07	0·06	25 % *ad val.*
831	*Rope or cable of iron or steel wire, not galvanised* ...	"	Not stated	0·16	25 % "
841	Chains, iron, of all kinds, neither galvanised nor tinned	"	0·10	0·08	25 % "
	Cement (Klinker)—				
885	*White*	100 kilogs.	Not stated	6·00	25 % "
886	"*Armado*," *for buildings*..	kilog.	"	0·03	25 % "
	Brushes—				
890	*Of bristles, for cleaning bottles or lamp chimneys*	doz.	"	0·60	25 % "
891	For boiler flues, *and those of wire for foundries* ...	"	2·20	1·90	25 % "
918	Sharpening steels, of iron or steel	"	3·00	2·50	25 % "
925	*Belts of steel, for boot nailing machines*	kilog.	Not stated	0·40	25 % "
	Copper, bronze, and yellow metal—				
930	Scrap or old	"	0·20	0·15	25 % "
932	Solder	"	0·40	0·35	25 % "
948	Crucibles of plumbago ...	"	0·22	0·20	25 % "
959	Trowels, masons' or plasterers'	"	0·60	0·50	25 % "
960	" *of galvanised iron, with handles of wood for shops*	doz.	Not stated	1·20	25 % "
	Knives—				
961	For chaff cutting ...	"	12·00	10·00	25 % "
970	For glaziers or painters ...	"	1·20	1·00	25 % "
993	Squares, carpenters'	"	3·00	2·50	25 % "
1019	*Shutter bolts of iron, with handles of bronze, nickelled.*	kilog.	Not stated	0·20	25 % "
1026	Forges, portable	"	0·22	0·20	25 % "
1053	Shackles of iron, *nickelled*, for anchors or chains ...	"	0·10	0·17	25 % "
	Iron—				
1067	In ingots, for foundries ...	"	0·022	0·018	5 % "
1071	Galvanised, in sheets or for the ridges of roofs...	"	0·08	0·07	25 % "
1110	Files or rasps of all sizes ...	"	0·50	0·40	25 % "
1273	Stones, emery, of all kinds ...	"	0·25	0·20	25 % "
1367	Tacks, iron, *polished, coppered, bronzed, and nickelled*	"	0·09	0·12	25 % "
1386	Cement, hydraulic or Roman	100 kgs. gross	1·20	1·10	25 % "
1392	Shears, pruning	Kilog.	0·80	0·70	25 % "

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC—*continued.*

No. in New Valuation Tariff.	Articles.	Unit.	Valuation. Former.	Valuation. Present.	Duty.
			Pesos.	Pesos.	
	SECTION XIV.—ELECTRICAL GOODS, LAMPS, &c.				
1456	Wire or cables— Strengthened, for laying underground, with interior envelope of lead, and outer sheathing iron or steel	Kilog.	0·40	0·25	5 % *ad val.*
1460	*Ampèremeters or voltmeters*..	Each	Not stated	5·00	25 % "
	Lamp globes, in general, also bulbs of glass or crystal—				
1471	More than 30 cm. in diameter	Doz.	40·00	0·25	25 % "
	Of glass, frosted or transparent—				
1472	*From* 30 *to* 40 *cm.* ...	"	Not stated	0·25	25 % "
1473	*More than* 40 *cm.* ...	"	"	0·40	25 % "
	Of cut glass or crystal—				
1474	*From* 30 *to* 40 *cm.* ...	"	"	0·35	25 % "
1475	*More than* 40 *cm.* ...	"	"	0·55	25 % "
1476	*Globes of glass or crystal of all colours and sizes, for lanterns or ship lamps* ...	"	"	2·00	25 % "
	Note.—Half-globes (ceiling lights) are dutiable at half the respective rates for globes.				
1479	*Copper cable insulated, covered with pitched hemp*..	Kilog.	"	0·40	25 % "
1481	Carbons for arc lamps	Kilog. gross	0·20	0·18	25 % "
1509	Lamps, kitchen, of all kinds..	Doz.	1·50	1·40	25 % "
1512	Wicks for lamps, chafing dishes, and tinder boxes, of all kinds	Kilog.	0·80	0·60	25 % "
1514	Incandescent gas mantles, not finished	100	Not stated	4·00	25 % "
1517	Electric motors for fans, complete or not	Each	10·00	8·00	25 % "
1518	Shades for lamps of *white* glass	Kilog. gross	0·15	0·10	25 % "
1545	Insulating tubes of iron, cast or wrought, with accessories, varnished or not	Kilog.	0·15	0·12	25 % "

A similar statement showing the principal alterations in the duties on textiles, clothing, earthenware, and other articles of importance to British trade, will be published in succeeding issues of the "Board of Trade Journal."

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SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Measurement of Tonnage: Departmental Committee of Enquiry.

The President of the Board of Trade has appointed Mr. Andrew Bonar Law, M.P., Chairman; Professor John Harvard Biles, LL.D.; Captain Herbert Acton Blake; Hon. James Cleland Burns; Captain Alfred J. G. Chalmers; Colonel John McAusland Denny, M.P.; Mr. Alfred Emmott, M.P.; Sir William T. Lewis, Bart.; Mr. Anthony George Lyster, M.Inst.C.E.; Mr. William Milburn; Mr. Charles J. Cater Scott; Sir William Henry White, K.C.B., LL.D., F.R.S.; and Mr. Joseph Havelock Wilson, to be a committee to enquire into the operation of Sections 78 and 87 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, in connection with the measurement of tonnage.

The President has also appointed Mr. C. J. O. Sanders, of the Board of Trade, to be secretary to the Committee.

CANADA—BELGIUM.

Increased S.s. Sailings from Antwerp to Quebec and Montreal.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp (Mr. E. Cecil Hertslet), reporting that the present fortnightly service of steamships, belonging to the Canadian Pacific Railway, running from Antwerp to Quebec and Montreal, is about to be changed to a weekly service for merchandise and passengers as soon as the St. Lawrence river is again open to navigation.

FRANCE—ECUADOR.

"Gulf Line" to Ecuador to call at Havre.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul-General at Havre (Mr. W. R. Hearn) that, according to a communication from the French Chargé d'Affaires at Quito, the "Gulf Line" have signed a contract with the Government of Ecuador by which the Company undertake to include Havre in their itinerary, and to carry free postal matter between the Republic of Ecuador, France and the United Kingdom. The agreement is for five years from 5th November, 1904, and came into force on the 5th February.

ARGENTINA.

Railway Statistics for 1904.

The following particulars of railways in Argentina in 1904 are taken from the "Review of the River Plate" (Buenos Aires) of 6th January:—

The comparative returns with previous years are as follow:—

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Shipping and Transport.

—		1902.	1903.	1904.
Length of line	kilom.	17,367	18,294	19,238
Capital	$ gold	538,338,479	560,946,206	573,089,585
Receipts	"	42,480,423	53,008,346	61,675,515
Expenses	"	22,487,472	26,716,994	32,349,705
Net receipts	"	19,992,951	26,291,352	29,235,810
Passengers carried		19,788,497	20,642,180	22,519,220
Freight	tons	14,544,359	17,436,446	20,344,324
Capital per kilometre of line ...	$ gold	30,998	31,128	29,789
Receipts " " ...	"	2,446	2,897	3,206
Expenses " " ...	"	1,295	1,460	1,682
Interest earned	%	3·71	4·69	5·12

From the above it will be seen that for the past two years there has been a steady increase in the interest earned. 1902 was a bad year; but it was better than 1900 when the amount earned was 3·41 per cent. The receipts in 1904 show an increase of 16 per cent. over those of 1903, as compared with an increase of 26 per cent. in 1903 over 1902. The expenses have increased 21 per cent. as against an increase of 9 per cent. for the year 1903. The net receipts show an increase of 11½ per cent. as against 30 per cent. for the previous year. Passenger traffic shows a steady increase, and freight shows an increase of 16 per cent. as against 21 for the previous year.

PERU—HONG-KONG.

Suspension of Steamer Service.

With reference to the notice on p. 127 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 21st April, 1904, announcing the establishment of a steamer service between Callao and Hong-Kong, with Panama and Yokohama as intermediate ports of call, H.M. Consul at Panama (Mr. C. Mallet) reports that the service, which was started as an experiment, has now been suspended.

MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Enquiry under the Boiler Explosions' Act.

A formal investigation was held in the Town Hall, Manchester, on the 17th February, into the circumstances attending the explosion of a boiler which occurred at the Gibraltar Chemical, Candle and Soap Works, Middleton Junction, Manchester, on the 16th September, 1904.

The Commissioners found that the explosion was brought about by the neglect of the firm, and their principal was ordered to pay the sum of 40*l.* towards the costs of the investigation.

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

BRITISH INDIA.

Establishment of Steel Works at Barrakar.

The "Englishman" (Calcutta) of 11th February reports the initiation of an industry which is likely to prove of considerable importance in the economic development of British India, namely, the production of rolled steel, on a commercial scale, from indigenous raw material. This important result has been accomplished at some new steel works erected at Barrakar. Judging from samples now on view in Calcutta of cold steel, bent and punched, hammered and distorted into all kinds of shapes and yet without flaw or crack, there is no question, remarks the "Englishman," of the ability of the works to turn out steel of a quality equal to anything of the kind produced in Europe or America. At present only some 500 tons of steel are being made per week, but as the demand increases, additional furnaces will be erected and the output can thus soon be doubled.

The demand in Bengal alone for rolled steel in the form of joists and various sections, tees, angles, &c., used in building construction is very considerable. It is stated that this trade has hitherto been almost entirely in the hands of Belgians. The competition of the Barrakar steel will consequently be, for some time to come, with the products of Belgian and German rolling mills.

Some fifty or sixty Englishmen and Scotsmen have been brought out in charge of the various departments; but the bulk of the workmen are natives of India. The present operations do not represent by any means all that is proposed to be done at Barrakar. Ultimately it is intended to establish large rail rolling mills, and it is hoped that, in the future, India will be in a position to supply its own rails as well as sufficient steel for a variety of other purposes, industrial and military.

AUSTRALASIA.

Gold Production in 1904.

The Melbourne "Age" publishes an estimate of the gold production of **Australia** in 1904. Official figures for four of the States are available, and estimates of the South Australian and Tasmanian production for the full year are based on earlier reports. So far, says the "Age," it is not possible to state the yield of all the States in fine ounces, and in the following table the figures are as published officially, except in the case of Tasmania and South Australia:—

——	1903.	1904.
	Ozs.	Ozs.
Western Australia (*a*)	2,436,805	2,373,014
Victoria (*a*)	822,424	827,269
Queensland (*b*)	659,042	624,917
New South Wales (*b*)	254,260	269,817
Tasmania (*a*)	59,891	61,000
South Australia (*a*)	27,829	28,000

(*a*) Crude oz. (*b*) Fine oz.

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

The decrease as compared with 1903 is 54,459 crude oz., and 18,568 fine oz., together equal to, approximately, a decline of 65,000 fine oz. The production of Australia in 1903 was the largest ever recorded, and was valued at 16,294,479*l.* The value of the 1904 yield may be estimated at, approximately, 16,000,000*l.* In 1902 the value of the yield was given officially at 14,817,128*l.*

The **New Zealand** exports of gold in 1904 were 519,720 ozs., valued at 1,987,501*l.*, against 533,314 ozs., valued at 2,037,831*l.*, in the previous year. The total gold production of **Australasia** in 1904 was therefore, approximately, 17,987,501*l.*, against 18,332,310*l.* in 1903, and 16,768,561*l.* in 1902.

TRANSVAAL.

Mineral Production in 1903-04.

The following table, showing the quantity and value of the mineral production of the Transvaal during the year ended 30th June, 1904, with comparative figures for the preceding year, is compiled from the yearly report of the Transvaal Government Mining Engineer for 1903–04, a copy of which has recently been received at the Board of Trade from the High Commissioner's Office at Johannesburg:—

—		1902–03.		1903–04.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			£		£
Gold	fine ozs.	2,372,076	10,075,926	3,475,311	14,762,184
Silver	"	280,997	29,215	406,677	45,111
Diamonds ...	carats	33,572·57	46,358	497,917·14	685,720
Coal	tons	1,969,089	782,906*	2,370,465	895,931*

* Value of coal sold.

Output of Industrial Products.

From the same report the following figures are extracted, showing the value of the output of the various industrial concerns in the Transvaal during the year ended June last, with comparisons for the preceding year:—

—	1902–03.	1903–04.
	£	£
Machine-made bricks (building)...	59,741	114,698
" " " (fire)	7,961	8,726
Cement	9,880	24,355
Lime (blue)...	41,129	16,628
" (white)	12,727	56,486
Slate	6,000	15,500

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

The total value of the output amounted to 300,977*l.*, as against 173,817*l.* for the preceding year.

It should be noted, that besides the works which produce upon a comparatively large scale, a quantity of hand-made bricks, &c., has been produced by individuals, which probably aggregates considerably more than the quantities produced by the works from which returns have been called for.

ITALY.

Coal Trade of Sicily.

A memorandum has been received from H.M. Consul at Palermo (Mr. S. J. A. Churchill) containing statistics of the coal trade of Sicily during 1904.

The coal imports (by steamships, and exclusive of sailing and coasting vessels) of the three principal ports of Sicily during 1904 were as follows;—

—	1904.			*1903.*
	Welsh Coal.	North Country Coal.	Total.	
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	*Tons.*
Palermo	88,000	48,000	136,000	*160,000*
Messina	115,000	24,000	157,000*	*91,000*
Catania	60,000	31,000	91,000	*101,000*
Totals	263,000	103,000	384,000	*352,000*

* Including 20,000 tons imported from the United States of America.

Of the Palermo coal, over 36,000 tons were for the Navigazione Generale Italiana (Florio-Rubattino Line), 22,000 tons were gas coal, and the bulk of the remainder was for the different railway companies.

The British Vice-Consul at Trapani reports that the coals imported into that port during the year 1904 amounted to 24,222 tons, all from the United Kingdom.

Sulphur Trade of Sicily.

A despatch has been received from H.M. Consul at Palermo (Mr. S. J. A. Churchill) reporting that during 1904, 508,980 tons of sulphur were exported from Sicily. Of this total, 20,957 tons were shipped to the United Kingdom and Malta; Australia and India took about 11,000 tons.

The stock on hand on 31st December, 1904, amounted to 370,606 tons.

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Production of Bessemer Steel Ingots and Steel Rails in 1904.

The "Bulletin" of the American Iron and Steel Association for 15th February publishes statistics, received direct from the manufacturers, of the production of Bessemer steel ingots and castings in the United States in 1904; also of Bessemer steel rails by the producers of Bessemer steel ingots.

The total production of **Bessemer steel ingots and castings** in 1904 was 7,859,140 tons, against 8,592,829 tons in 1903, a decrease of 733,689 tons, or over 8·5 per cent. The production in 1902 (9,138,363 tons) was the largest hitherto recorded.

The production of all kinds of **Bessemer steel rails** by the makers of Bessemer steel ingots in 1904 was 2,084,438 tons, against a similar production in 1903 of 2,873,228 tons, a decrease of 788,790 tons. The maximum production of Bessemer steel rails by makers of Bessemer ingots was reached in 1902, when 2,876,293 tons were made.

In the following table the production of rails, weighing 45 lbs. and less than 85 lbs. to the yard, is separated from those weighing less than 45 lbs. and over 85 lbs. to the yard. Bessemer rails made from purchased ingots or from re-rolled rails by companies which do not manufacture Bessemer ingots are not included:—

States.	Under 45 lbs.	45 lbs. and less than 85 lbs.	85 lbs. and over.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Pennsylvania	127,136	438,669	235,852	801,657
Other States	103,630	751,962	427,189	1,282,781
Total for 1904... ...	230,766	1,190,631	663,041	2,084,438
Total for 1903 ..	*178,146*	*1,529,580*	*1,165,502*	*2,873,228*

The total production of rails in 1904 will include rails made from open-hearth steel, rails rolled from purchased Bessemer blooms, crop ends, and "seconds," and rails re-rolled or renewed by non-producers of Bessemer steel ingots, and iron rails. The total from all these sources in 1903 amounted to 119,249 tons, of which quantity 45,054 tons were open-hearth steel rails and only 667 tons were iron rails. In 1904 the total from these sources will amount to about 200,000 tons, making the total rail production for that year about 2,300,000 tons.

In 1904 the United States exported 414,845 tons of steel rails and 1,405 tons of iron rails, and imported 37,776 tons of iron and steel rails.

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YARNS AND TEXTILES.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Exports of Cotton Goods.

The following statement, showing the exports of cotton goods (domestic manufacture) from the United States to various countries during the twelve months ended December, 1903 and 1904, has been compiled from the official statistics issued by the United States Government:—

To	Twelve months ended December. 1903.	1904.
Coloured and uncoloured cloths—	Yards.	Yards.
United Kingdom	3,813,740	2,473,020
France	42,462	—
Germany	189,894	108,240
Other Europe	1,658,300	1,473,030
British North America	12,752,164	8,810,310
Central America and British Honduras	18,029,619	24,368,148
Mexico	2,584,891	2,955,564
Cuba	3,861,295	12,419,293
Other West Indies and Bermuda	26,294,763	21,255.483
Argentina	1,348,154	2,480,828
Brazil	10,066,579	8,462,661
Chile	11,184,499	12,387,169
Colombia	19,431,571	17,016,999
Venezuela	11,935,401	6,720,078
Other South America	6,383,476	6,377,306
Chinese Empire	181,741,678	248,671,197
British East Indies	8,242,076	4,861,578
Hong-Kong	580,113	346,235
Japan	314,223	7,842,365
British Australasia	4,253,270	5,429,222
Philippine Islands	3,994,540	10,212,366
Other Asia and Oceania	39,159,786	23,625,325
British Africa	5,804,666	6,034,836
All other Africa	407,032	658,433
Total quantity ... ... Yards	374,074,192	434.989,686
Total value ... ... Dols.	19,733,070	25,618,009
Other cotton goods—	Dollars.	Dollars.
United Kingdom	947,160	1,207,769
Belgium	101,789	93,207
France	14,603	11,072
Germany	1,278,564	817,259
Netherlands	30,141	35,753
Other Europe	96,293	89,819
British North America	2,169,863	2,396,966
Central America and British Honduras	452,398	621,597
Mexico	436,100	534,826
Cuba	236,403	355,893
Other West Indies and Bermuda	309,676	239,724
Argentina	128,429	222,089
Brazil	110,514	94,813
Chile	24,646	21,482
Colombia	118,648	108,737
Venezuela	34,877	35,704
Other South America	52,803	49,173
Chinese Empire	28,433	81,973
British East Indies	8,967	11,362
Hong-Kong	33,032	60,693
British Australasia	405,161	495,613
Philippine Islands	54,021	73,270
Other Asia and Oceania	95,611	215,971
British Africa	210,917	154,667
All other Africa	12,509	9,560
Other countries	7,322	3,616
Total value ... ... Dols.	7,398,880	8,042,608
Grand total value of all cotton goods exported...	27,131,950	33,660,617

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AGRICULTURE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Corn Prices.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 25th February, 1905, were as follow:—

Wheat	30*s.* 10*d.*
Barley	25*s.* 0*d.*
Oats	16*s.* 10*d.*

For further particulars see p. 429.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

A statement is published on p. 430, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 25th February, 1905, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1904.

ITALY.

Hemp Crop of Southern Italy.

In his recent report to the Foreign Office, H.M. Consul-General at Naples (Mr. E. Neville Rolfe, M.V.O.) says the reports that the 1904 hemp crop of that district is a small one are being confirmed on all sides. In the autumn all labour is employed in the vineyards, and of the considerable quantities of hemp that are yet to be worked for the market, few lots of finished hemp are being offered; this fact adds to the firmness of prices.

The bulk of this year's hemp does not come up to that of last season in quality. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,323.)

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Grain Harvest in 1904.

According to a despatch recently received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul at Rosario (Mr. H. M. Mallet), the reports of the Argentine wheat crop now harvested are somewhat disappointing, as, notwithstanding that a much larger area was sown and a good crop expected, the yield in some districts is said to be from 20 to 30 per cent. less than the 1903-4 crop, while, owing to unfavourable weather, the grain is small and light.

H.M. Consul states that it is impossible at the present time to give trustworthy information as to the quantity of wheat there may be for export from the Rosario district, but it is certain that it will be considerably less than last year.

The linseed crop is equal to last season's and of good quality. As regards the maize crop, a much larger area has been sown, and if the weather continues favourable, the quantity available for export will exceed that of last year.

The exports from the whole country of the classes of grain specified are given as follows for the year 1904:—

	Tons.
Wheat	2,400,000
Maize	2,600,000
Linseed	960,000

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MISCELLANEOUS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Cotton Statistics.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 23rd February, 1905, was 80,599, and the number imported during the 8 weeks ended the 23rd February was 872,931. As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 23rd February, 1905, 7,196 bales (including 16 bales British West African), and for the 8 weeks, 93,366.

For further details see p. 429.

DENMARK.

Free Port of Copenhagen.

In a supplementary report for the year 1903, H.M. Consul at Copenhagen (Captain J. Boyle), states that the total weight of goods imported into and exported from Denmark during that year was 6,472,500 tons, of which amount about half, 3,052,000 tons, passed through Copenhagen.

The trade which was carried on in the free port amounted to 1,047,000 tons, or about one-third of the total turnover at Copenhagen. Most of the goods shipped at the free port consist of coarse goods, coal, grain and feeding-stuffs. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3324).

BELGIUM.

Alcohol used for Industrial Purposes.

In a report to the Foreign Office on the Finances of Belgium for the years 1904–05, by Sir Brooke Boothby, Secretary of H.M. Legation at Brussels, the following table is given, showing the chief Belgian industries in which alcohol is used, and the amount used in the past two years :—

Class of Industry.	1902.	1903.
	Hectolitres.	Hectolitres.
Vinegars	7,918	12,585
Varnish	2,237	2,329
French polish	1,976	2,052
Other varnishes	1,113	1,219
Sulphuric ether	14,034	25,826
Artificial silk	6,568	14,783
Antiseptic cotton wool	171	270
Pegamoid tissues	310	20
Felt and hats	146	106

The amount of alcohol applied to industrial uses in Belgium in 1904 is estimated at 76,218 hectolitres. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3325.)

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Miscellaneous.

SWITZERLAND.

Statistics of Commercial Travellers in 1904.

According to official statistics, reproduced in the "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels) the number of commercial travellers visiting the various towns of Switzerland in 1904 amounted to 31,417; of these 24,510 represented Swiss firms, and 6,907 firms in other countries.

Licences were granted to 30,050 travellers; 27,129 were issued gratis and 2,921 were taxed. The amount received from commercial travellers was 418,500 fr. (about 16,704*l.*). The number of these travellers from foreign countries in 1904 was as follows:—Germany, 4,786; France, 1,319; Italy, 415; Austria-Hungary, 249; Belgium, 65; and the United Kingdom, 41.

TURKEY.

Chemical Analysis of Articles of Consumption: Appointment of Commission of Enquiry.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Embassy at Constantinople, announcing the appointment, by the Turkish Imperial Government, of a Special Commission to study the question of the chemical analysis of articles of consumption imported into Turkey. This step has been taken with a view of meeting the complaints of foreign importers as to the vexatious treatment encountered by them in clearing goods through the Custom House, and especially as regards the excessive opening of tinned provisions and the chemical analysis of all articles of consumption. One of the principal proposals before the Commission is for the constitution of a competent Analytical Department at the Central Customs to obviate the serious loss of time now necessitated by the continual references to the Imperial School of Medicine at Haidar Pasha.

CHINA.

Commercial Settlements in Shantung Province.

The "North China Herald" (Shanghai) of 23rd December quotes a statement from a Chinese paper to the effect that the Shangpu has assented to a proposal to mark out commercial settlements in Chouts'un and Weihsien, where foreigners may reside and trade, but it is stipulated that there shall be no perpetual leases granted to foreigners as in treaty ports; only temporary leases for a certain number of years, liable to renewal on expiration. Furthermore, no landholder can sell his land to foreigners, and poor natives desiring to sell their lands within the settlement in question must sell to the official land bureau.

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STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the Week and 8 Weeks ended 23rd February, 1905.

—	Week ended 23rd Feb., 1905.	8 Weeks ended 23rd Feb., 1905.	Week ended 23rd Feb., 1905.	8 Weeks ended 23rd Feb., 1905.
	Imports. (Bales.)		Exports. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American	67,776	740,284	4,381	68,062
Brazilian	—	6,864	—	328
East Indian	110	11,308	569	3,527
Egyptian	12,681	98,508	2,230	21,002
Miscellaneous	32	15,967	*16	447
Total	80,599	872,931	7,196	93,366

* British West African.

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 25th February, 1905, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

—	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 25th February, 1905 ...	30	10	25	0	16	10
Corresponding week in—						
1898	35	10	28	0	17	11
1899	25	8	26	7	17	0
1900	26	4	24	6	16	10
1901	25	11	25	0	17	9
1902	27	1	26	8	20	5
1903	25	3	23	2	17	1
1904	27	10	22	4	16	3

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

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Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 25th February, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

—		Week ended 18th Feb., 1905.	*Corresponding Week in 1904.*
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number.	10,260	*9,867*
Sheep and lambs	"	4,793	*9,890*
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	209	*643*
Fresh Meat :—			
Beef	Cwts.	101,580	*90,856*
Mutton	"	79,442	*53,840*
Pork	"	16,803	*14,558*
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Cwts.	126,572	*96,074*
Beef	"	8,856	*2,021*
Hams	"	32,990	*16,832*
Pork	"	5,405	*4,839*
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ...	"	16,313	*13,129*
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting...	"	14,054	*14,121*
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwts.	76,930	*95,836*
Margarine	"	19,953	*15,977*
Cheese	"	16,707	*24,613*
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	*120*
" cream	"	73	*189*
" condensed	"	22,457	*16,445*
" preserved, other kinds...	"	21	*345*
Eggs	Grt. Hundr.	293,981	*306,830*
Poultry	Value £	31,958	*32,098*
Game	"	1,820	*2,334*
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	Cwts.	4,394	*3,251*
Lard	"	49,835	*40,675*
Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—			
Wheat	Cwts.	1,184,200	*1,422,000*
Wheat meal and flour	"	258,500	*282,900*
Barley	"	185,400	*748,300*
Oats	"	338,800	*421,400*
Peas	"	30,600	*48,910*
Beans	"	34,520	*26,400*
Maize or Indian corn	"	932,200	*1,478,300*
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Cwts.	52,866	*54,896*
Apricots and peaches	"	75	*33*
Bananas	Bunches.	52,875	*19,935*
Cherries	Cwts.	—	—
Currants...	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	—	—
Grapes	"	191	*105*
Lemons	"	4,462	*23,258*
Oranges	"	112,618	*194,108*
Pears	"	188	*149*
Plums	"	23	*21*
Strawberries	"	—	—
Unenumerated	"	2,650	*2,806*
Hay...	Tons.	2,383	*2,984*
Straw	"	6,552	*3,130*
Moss Litter*	"	1,643	—
Hops	Cwts.	1,238	*4,651*
Locust Beans	"	6,162	*16,607*
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels.	54,341	*179,380*
Potatoes	Cwts.	22,819	*235,782*
Tomatoes	"	9,399	*9,039*
Unenumerated	Value £	8,544	*10,831*
Vegetables, dried	Cwts.	2,957	*9,343*
Preserved by canning...	"	2,672	*8,143*

* Not shown in 1904.

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GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of January, 1905, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance of 8½*d.* per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1903, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s.* 1*d.* for the first, and 5*s.* for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1899–1903, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The Board of Trade "Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade on the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the February issue:—State of the Labour Market in January; Employment in 1904; Trade Disputes in 1904; Wholesale Prices in 1904; Relief of the Unemployed.

COLONIAL OFFICE REPORT.

A report from the following British Colony has been issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal," viz.:—

No. 444. Basutoland.

OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

Statistical Abstract for the British Empire in each year from 1889 *to* 1903. *First number.* [*Cd.* 2,395.] *Price* 6*d.*

This is the first number of this Abstract, which has been prepared in the Statistical Department of the Board of Trade to meet the demand for statistical information as to the trade, shipping, and production of the British Empire. It contains statistics of the trade of each portion of the Empire with foreign countries and with other portions of the Empire, figures as to the shipping of the Empire, as well as statements of the production of coal, iron and gold, cereals and other foodstuffs, cotton, jute and wool. As a general rule the tables contained in the Abstract contain figures for the year 1903, as compared with a series of preceding years,

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Government Publications.

but in the case of the statistics of the trade of certain Colonies and Possessions it has not been found possible to give later information than that for 1902.

Further Papers relating to the proposed adoption of a Metric System of Weights and Measures for use within the Empire. [*Cd.* 2,343.] *Price* ½*d.*

This publication contains the replies sent from Canada, Newfoundland and Basutoland to a circular issued by the Colonial Secretary with the view of ascertaining Colonial opinion on the proposed adoption of the Metric System. The replies received previously were published in February last [Cd. 1940], and noticed on p. 432 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 3rd March, 1904.

The Canadian Privy Council are willing to legalise the Metric System at such time as may be agreed upon between H.M. Government and the various units of the Empire. The Newfoundland Ministers are of opinion that, until the British Government and the Dominion of Canada adopt the system it would be inadvisable for that Colony to move in the matter: The reply from Basutoland is to the effect that the adoption of the system would not entail any serious difficulty to the traders of that Colony.

LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

THE following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since 1st January, 1905, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

No.	Place.	Price	No.	Place.	Price
	EUROPE—			**Russia:**	
	Belgium:		628	*Cultivation of Tea in the Caucasus*	½*d.*
3325	Belgium—Finances 1904–05	1*d.*			
				AFRICA—	
	Denmark:		3321	Somaliland Protectorate... ... 1903–04	3*d.*
3324	Denmark (Supplementary) 1903	½*d.*	3322	Tangier and District ...	1½*d.*
				AMERICA, NORTH—	
	German Empire and Colonies:			**United States of America:**	
624	*Memorandum on German Cement*	½*d.*	625	*Rice Industry in the United States*	2*d.*
	Italy:		626	*Iron and Steel Exhibits at the St. Louis Exhibition*...	2½*d.*
3320	Italy 1903	1½*d.*	627	*United States Railways* ...	2½*d.*
3323	South Italy 1904	1½*d.*			

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Government Publications.

Treaty Series.

The following numbers of the Treaty Series issued since the 1st January, 1905, may be obtained from the above-mentioned source:—

No.	———	Price.
	EUROPE— **France:**	
3	Agreements between the United Kingdom and France referring to Arbitration the question of the Grant of the French flag to Muscat Dhows...	½*d.*
	Russia:	
2	Agreement between the United Kingdom and Russia respecting Joint Stock Companies and other commercial, industrial, and financial associations	½*d.*
	AMERICA, NORTH— **Mexico:**	
4	Convention between the United Kingdom and Mexico respecting Postal Rates upon letters passing between New Zealand and Mexico	½*d.*
	WEST INDIES— **Cuba:**	
1	Accession of Cuba to arrangements respecting false indications of origin on goods and the International Registration of Trade Marks	½*d.*

COLONIAL OFFICE REPORTS.

The following Reports relating to H.M. Colonial Possessions issued since 1st January, 1905, may be purchased from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.:—

Annual.

No.	Place.	Price.
—	Cyprus	2½*d.*
444	Basutoland...	3*d.*

Miscellaneous.

No.	Place.	Price.
29	Ceylon. Reports on the results of the Mineral Survey in 1903–4	2½*d.*

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THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH

OF THE

BOARD OF TRADE.

The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade was established in 1899, in consequence of a report by a Departmental Committee, with a view to meet the constantly increasing demand for prompt and accurate information on commercial matters in the interests of British trade, so far as it can be met by Government action. It is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference. In addition, it is the duty of the Branch, as far as the interests of British Trade permit, to afford information in reply to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

The office is housed at No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., and (subject to the Comptroller-General of the Commercial, Statistical, and Labour Departments of the Board of Trade) is under the direction of Mr. T. Worthington. The Intelligence Branch endeavours, on application being made to it either personally or by letter, to supply information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender; Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c.

In consequence of the transfer of the Imperial Institute to the Board of Trade from the beginning of 1903, the work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Offices of the Imperial Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch is also in communication with the Imperial Institute at South Kensington, of which Professor Wyndham Dunstan, F.R.S., has been appointed director by the Board of Trade. Among the branches of work in charge of Professor Dunstan are the scientific investigation of the economic products of the British Empire with a view to their commercial utilisation, and the superintendence of the arrangement and classification of the Collection of these products which are exhibited at the Institute. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room at 73, Basinghall Street.

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch and intended for general information is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is now issued weekly at the price of 1*d*. Supplements to the "Board of Trade Journal" are issued quarterly, under the title of the "Imperial Institute Bulletin," containing information and reports bearing on the work carried out in the Imperial Institute at South Kensington.

COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT, BOARD OF TRADE.

January, 1905.

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

To Merchants, Manufacturers, and Shippers whose Advertisements appear in the "Board of Trade Journal."

(*Where no folio is given, Advertisement does not appear in this issue.*)

PAGE

Absorbent Blottings—
Tullis, R., & Co., Markinch, Fife ... ...

Adamantine Clinker (Regd.)—
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...

Admiralty Charts—
Potter, J. D., 145, Minories..

Agents (Colonial & Foreign)—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Agricultural Seeds—
Cooper, Taber & Co., 90 & 92, Southwark Street, S.E. ...
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ...

Air Compressors—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks 4

Ale, Beer, and Stout Merchants—
Daukes & Co., Strand, London

Alkali Manufacturers—
Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire ... ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Alloys—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

PAGE

Ammonia, Anhydrous, & Liquid—
Brotherton & Co., Leeds (Carbonate of Ammonia, Muriate of Ammonia, &c.)

Ammonia (Anhydrous), Valves for—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow 22

Ammunition Manufacturers—
King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham ... ...
Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Antifouling Composition for Ships—
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Anti-friction Metal—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Antimony Paint—
Parker & Lester, London, S.E.

Antiquities in Sundials—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Artists' Colours—
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

PAGE

Athletic Goods Manufacturers—
Quaife Bros. & Lilley, 313, Broad Street, Birmingham

Bags and Sacks—
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool ... ...

Baths, Porcelain, Enamelled (Cast Iron)—
Clark, T. & C., & Co., Wolverhampton ... ...

Bedding—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., South Place, Finsbury, E.C. ...

Bedsteads (Iron and Brass)—
Bott, J. T., Ltd., Glover Street, Birmingham... ...
Evered & Co., London and Birmingham ... ...
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Bordesley, Birmingham, and South Place, Finsbury, E.C.
Hoyland, John, Ltd., Birmingham and London ...

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Billiard Table Manufacturers—
Cox & Yeman, London, S.W.
Edwards, George, London, N.E. ... ...

Binoxide of Barium—
Bessler, Waechter & Co., 18 & 19, Fenchurch Street, E.C.
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle ... ...

Bird Seeds and Foods—
Hyde, R., & Co., London, S.E.

Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, J., & Son, 58, City Road, E.C.... ... ...

Biscuit Manufacturers—
Hubbard, Walter, Partick, Glasgow. Export Agent—J. S. Morrison, Son & Jones, Peninsular Buildings, London, E.C. ... ...

Blankets—Cotton—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester.

Bleaching Powder—
Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Blue Manufacturers—
Edge, Wm., & Sons, Ltd., Bolton... ... ...

PAGE

Boiler Incrustation (Prevention and Removal of)—
The Boilerine Manufacturing Co., Old Kent Road, S.E...
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Boiler Makers—
Butterley Co. (The), Ltd., Derby ... ...
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton C
Garrett, R., & Son, Ltd., Leiston, R.S.O. C
Hartley & Sugden, Ltd., Halifax 4
Marriott & Graham, Govan, N.B. ... ...

Boiler Makers and Heating Engineers—
Riley, J. Ashton, Ltd., Manchester Road, Huddersfield

Boiler Tubes—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ... ...

Bolts, Nuts and Screws—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 25
Periam, Herb. W., Birmingham (Screws, Rivets, Washers, Nails (Roofing)) 17

Bone Mill Manufacturers—
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable

PAGE

Boots and Shoes—
Lewis, C. & E., Northampton

Bottled Fruits—
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...

Brass Finishers—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury

Brassfounders—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Brass Plate Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Brass Scrap Merchants—
Adams, John, & Sons, Newcastle-on-Tyne 3

Bread & Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Brick & Tile Manufacturers—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Enamelled and Glazed Bricks, Glazed Wall Tiles)
Pearson, E. J. & J., Stourbridge
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Brickmaking Machinery—
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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Bronze Manufacturers— PAGE

Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Brush Manufacturers—

Brison, E., & Co., Bristol ...
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...

Bulbs—

Cooper, Taber & Co., Ltd., London ... ...

Bunting Manufacturers—

Riley, E., & Co., Providence Street Mills, Leeds ... ...

Button Manufacturers—

Smith & Wright, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

Cables and Wires—

Connolly Bros., Ltd., Blackley, Manchester 6
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Telegraph Manufact'ng Co., Ltd., The, Helsby, Warrington ... ...

Candle Manufacturers— PAGE

Ogston & Tennant, Ltd., Aberdeen ... ...
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Carbolic Acid—

Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Carbonic Acid Gas Valves—

Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow 22

Carboys—

Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks ... ...

Carpets and Rugs—

Barton, J. E., & Sons, Kidderminster ... ...

Carriage Builders—

Forder & Co., Ltd., Warrant Holders to H.M. the King, Upper St. Martin's Lane, W.C.; Works, Wolverhampton ... ...

Cartridge Manufacturers—

Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Cement Manufacturers—

Peters Bros., London, S.W....
West Kent Portland Cement Co., Burham, nr. Rochester

Charm Manufacturers— PAGE

Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Chemical Manufacturers—

Anglo - Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ... ...
Bessler, Waechter & Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Blythe, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs ... ...
Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., Northwich, Cheshire ...
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith ... ...
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle ... ...
Miller, Jas., Son & Co., Glasgow ... ...
The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Chemical Manure Manufacturers—

Anglo - Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ... ...
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B. ... ...

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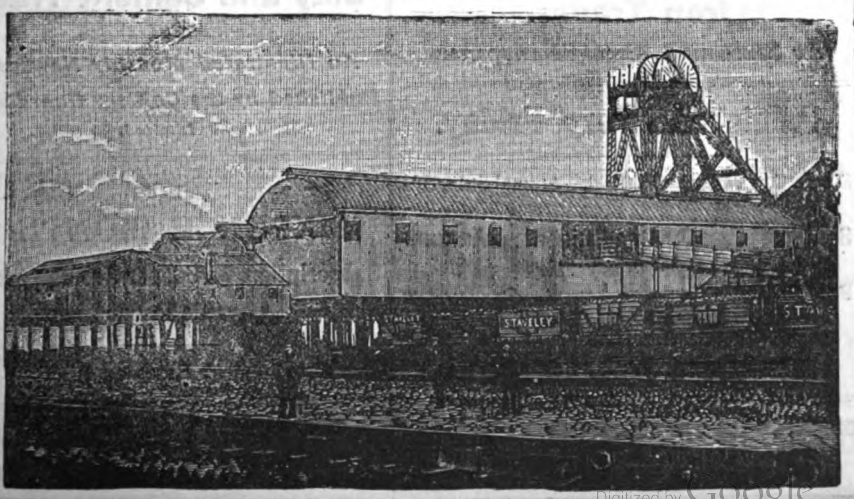

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Chemical Manure Manufacturers—*continued*—
Richards, G. H., 234, Borough High Street, S.E. ... ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Chemical & Physical Apparatus—
Reynolds & Branson, Ltd., Leeds ... ...

Chemists (Manufacturing)—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
Scott & Bowne, Ltd., London, E.C. (Scott's Emulsion) ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

Chilled Shot—
The Abbey Improved Chilled Shot Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne 2

Chimney Cowl Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester ... 2

Chimney Shaft, &c., Builder and Repairer—
Lewis, Joseph, 5 and 6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. 18

China Clay—
Lovering, John, & Co., St. Austell ... ...

PAGE

China Door Furniture Mnfrs.—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C... C

China Electrical Fittings—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C... C

China Manufacturers—
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...
Lovering, John, & Co., St. Austell, Cornwall ... ...

Chronometers—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....
Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 and 34, Cockspur Street, London... ...

Clocks and Watches—
Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 and 34, Cockspur Street, London... ...
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...

Cloth Finishing Machines—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee C

Clothing (Fustian)—
Brown, R. B., & Sons, Hebden Bridge... ... ...

Clothing Manufacturers (Fustian)—
Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge

Clothing and Woollen Mnfrs.—
Grainger & Smith, Dudley ...

PAGE

Cloths for Machinery—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury

Clutch Manufacturers—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks 4

Coal and Coke—
Cannock Chase Colliery Co., Ltd., Birmingham ... ...
Cory Bros., & Co., Ltd., Cardiff ... ...
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. ...
Wharncliffe Woodmoor Colliery Co., Ltd., Barnsley...
Wigan Coal and Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan ... ...

Coal Depot Proprietors—
Cory Bros. & Co., Cardiff ...
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. ...

Coal Screening Plant—
Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield 11

Coatings—Cotton—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester

Cocoa and Chocolate Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Coffee Mill Manufacturers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Colliery Engines—
Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield 11

Colliery Owners—
Cannock Chase Colliery Co., The, Ltd., Birmingham ...
Cory Bros. & Co., Cardiff ...
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. ...
Wharncliffe Woodmoor Colliery Co., Ltd., Barnsley...

Colour Manufacturers—
Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen...
Levinstein, Ltd., Manchester
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C.
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Composition for Bottoms of Ships—
Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen...
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...

Compressed Gases (Fittings for)—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow 22

Concertinas (English)—
Lachenal & Co., Little James Street, W.C. ... ...

Confectioners—
Craven, M. A., & Son, Ebor Confectionery Works, York

Confectioners' Colours, Essences, &c.—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours and Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., Hackney Wick, N.E. ... ...
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

Confectioners (Manufacturing, Wholesale and Export)—
Craven, M. A., & Son, Ebor Confectionery Works, York

PAGE

Coping and Paving Bricks—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Copper Tape, Wire Rope, &c.—
Connolly Bros., Ltd., Blackley, Manchester 6
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Corks—
Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks ... ...

Cotton Bagging—
Judge, T. & W., London, S.E.

Cotton Goods—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow ... ...
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury
Spinner, E., & Co., Manchester ... ...

Cotton Waste—
Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester... ... C

Cranes, Crab-Winches—
Russell, George, & Co., Motherwell, N.B. ... ...

Creosote—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Damp Wall Compositions—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E.

Decklights and Porthole Glasses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Birmingham ... ...

Decorated Tin Plates—
The Tinplate Decorating Co., Ltd., Neath 13

Decorative Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Delta Metal Manufacturers—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Disinfectants—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... .

PAGE

Disintegrators—
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable... ... ...
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ... ...

Distillers—
Crawford, Daniel, & Son, Ltd., Glasgow ... ...
Dailuaine - Talisker Distilleries, Ltd., Carron, Strathspey ... ...
Distillers Co., Ltd., The, Edinburgh ... ...

Docks (Floating) Caissons, &c.—
Cardiff Railway Co., The, Bute Docks, Cardiff; London Office, 22A, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W. 26
Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Co., Wyre Dock, Fleetwood ... ...

Door Furniture—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C... C

Drilling Machines—
Northern Engineering Co., Ltd., King's Cross, near Halifax 6

Drills—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester.

Dry Soap—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Dye Merchants—
Edge, Wm., Sons & Co., Bolton... ... ...

Edge Tools—
Thornton, G., & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Electrical Fittings (China)—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C.... C

Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and Contractors—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C.... C
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and Contractors— *continued—* PAGE

Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Lewis, Joseph, 5-6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. 18

Electric Bells—
Wright, Archibald J., Ltd., 318, Upper St., London, N.

Electric Light Fittings—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C.... C

Electric Novelties—
Wright, Archibald J., Ltd., 318, Upper St., London, N.

Electrical Screws (Iron, Steel or Brass)—
Acme Lathe Co., Ltd., The, Ardwick, Manchester ...

Emery and Corundum Wheel Manufacturers—
London Emery Works Co., 58H Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, near Manchester ... 8

Emery and Glass Cloth—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...

Emery and Glass Paper—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...

Emery Grindg. Machine Mkrs.—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester 8

Emery Manufacturers—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (Emery Wheel and Corundum Wheel Manufacturers) ... 8

Enamel Colours—
Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen...

Enamelled Fire Clay Sinks— PAGE
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

Encaustic Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Sons, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs... ...

Engine Cleaning Waste—
Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester... ... C

Engineers—
Northern Engineering Co., Halifax 6

Engineers (Boilers)—
Riley, J. Ashton, Ltd., Manchester Road, Huddersfield

Engineers' Ironfounders—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee (Machine Moulded Wheels) C
Whittingham & Porter, Hull 14
Wigan Coal and Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan ... ...
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorkhouse 4

Engineers' Oil Cans—
Kaye, Joseph, & Sons, Ltd., Leeds 14

Engineers' Stores—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Engineers' Tool Makers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield 3
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ... ...

Engineers and Millwrights— *General—*
Aveling & Porter, Rochester (Locomotives, Road Rollers, &c.) C
Baird, W., & Co., Glasgow (Pig Iron, Coal, Coke, &c.) ... 6
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...
Burrell, C., & Sons, Ltd., Thetford (Locomotives, Steam Rollers, Traction Engines) C
Chidlaw, Robert, Manchester 2
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton C
Garrett, R., & Sons, Leiston, Suffolk C

Engineers and Millwrights— PAGE
General—continued—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N.
Howorth, J., & Co., Farnworth, Manchester 2
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (various forms of Engineers' Grinding and Polishing Machinery) 8
Marriott & Graham, Govan, Glasgow (Boiler Makers)... 19
Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield ... ...
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London C
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee C
Russell, G., & Co., Motherwell, N.B. ... ...
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. 1
Spencer, Moulton & Co., Ltd., Bradford-on-Avon, Wilts... 8
Whiteley, William, & Sons, Lockwood, Huddersfield...
Whittingham & Porter, Hull 14
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorkshire 4

Engine Packings—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Engine-cleaning Waste—
Jones, W. C., Ltd., Manchester C

Engine Roll Bars—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Sheffield 3

Essence Manufacturers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours & Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., The, London, N.E.
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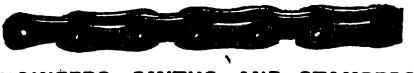

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

ssences, &c.—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

ssential Oils—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
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xhibition Agents—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn... 2

xhibition Fitters—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

ancy Goods, Dealers in, Importers, Warehousemen and Manufacturers—
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...

ancywood Merchants—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool ... ...

an Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester ... 2

eding Stuffs (for Cattle & Sheep)—
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B. ... ...

lts (Paper Makers' Machine)—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury

ncing (Steel and Iron)—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

le Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield 3

lter Manufacturers—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London C

e Bricks—
Calder Fireclay Co., The, Coatbridge... ... ...
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

Fire Bricks—*continued*— PAGE
King Bros., Stourbridge ... 4
Pearson, E. J. & J., Stourbridge
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...

Fire Clay—
King Bros., Stourbridge ... 4
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...

Fire Clay Goods—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Sinks) ... ...

Flag and Banner Manufacturers—
Piggott Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Flannel Manufacturers—
Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale ... ...
Spinner & Co., Manchester...

Flour Mill Engineers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Flour Millers—
Appleby, Josh., & Sons, Ltd., Liverpool ... ...
Vernon, W., & Sons, Liverpool

Forks—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Forwarding Agents—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., 38, Lime Street, E.C. ... ...

French Chalk—
Anglo-Italian Talc and Plumbago Mines Co., Ltd., 26, Old Hall Street, Liverpool

Fruit Essence Manufacturers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours & Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., London, N.E. ...
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

Furniture Trade Printers—
Smiley & Shaw, London, E.C.

Fustian Clothing Manufacturers—
Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge

Fustian (Piece Goods)— PAGE
Moss Bros. (Hebden Bridge), Ltd. ... ...

Galvanized Iron Manufacturers—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Galvanized Wire Netting—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

Garden Adornments—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Garden Furniture—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

Garden Requisite Manufacturer—
Richards, G. H., 234, Borough High Street, S.E. ... ...

Gas Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Manchester ... ...

Gas Furnaces—
Cannington, Shaw & Co., St. Helens, Lancashire ... ...

Gas Governors—
Shaw, Joseph, Huddersfield..

Gas-Tight Motors—
Hodson Wright & Wood, Halifax ... ...

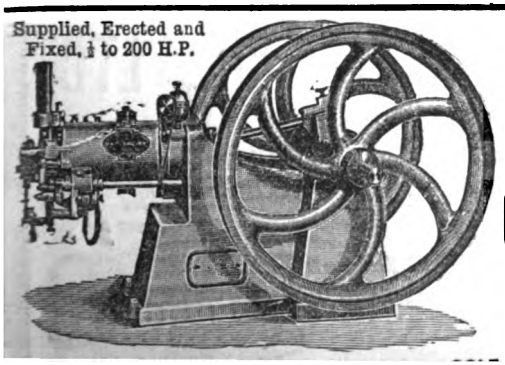
Gates, Railings, and Hurdles—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

Gauge Glasses—
Butterworth Bros., Newton Heath, Manchester ... ...
Tomey & Sons, Perth C
Tomey, Joseph, & Sons, Messrs., Ltd., Manor Glass Works, Aston, Birmingham

Gauge Glass Protectors—
Tomey, Joseph, & Sons, Messrs., Ltd., Manor Glass Works, Aston, Birmingham

Gear Cutter—
Chidlaw, Robert, 43, City Road, Manchester 2

Gelatines—
The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan



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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

General Export Merchants— PAGE
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E....

Gin Distillers—
Distillers Co., Ltd., The, Edinburgh... ... ...
Hills & Underwood, London, E.C. ... ...

Girders (Iron and Steel)—
Scott, Walter, Ltd., Leeds ...

Glass and Emery Paper—
London Emery Works Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Glass Bottles—
Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks ... ...
Cannington, Shaw & Co., Ltd., St. Helens ... ...

Glass Case Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Glass Manufacturers—
Robinson, J. B., 31, Moor Lane, E.C.... ... ...
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Glass Works—
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Glazed Bricks—
Woolliscroft, G., & Sons, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Glazed Fire Clay Sinks—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

Glaziers' Diamonds—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Glues—
The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan ...

Glycerine—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Golf Balls—
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ("Melfort" and "Henley")... ... ...

Grain Cleaning Machinery— PAGE
Boby, Robt., Ltd., Bury St. Edmunds ... ...

Granite Merchants—
Freeman, John, Sons & Co., Ltd., Penryn, Cornwall (Engineering and Architectural) ... ...

Grease Manufacturers—
Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Grinding Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable ... ...

Grinding & Polishing Machry.—
London Emery Works Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (Makers of various forms of)... ... 8

Guano Manufacturers—
Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ... ...

Gummed Paper—
Jones, S., & Co., 56, Carter Lane, St. Paul's, E.C. ...

Hammers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield 8

Hams and Bacon—
Nickson, G. & J., & Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Hand Looms—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ld., Bury

Hardwood Merchants—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool 10

Hat Manufacturers—
Christy & Co., London, E.C.

Heating & Ventilating Engineers—
Hartley & Sugden, Halifax (Boilers) 4
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. 1

Hinge and Lock Manufacturers—
Crompton, Thomas, Ashton, near Wigan ... ...

Hoes— PAGE
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ... ...
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Holloware—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Hop Commissioners—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ...

Hose—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Hose-Pipe Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Hosiery—
Walker, R., & Sons, Rutland Street, Leicester ... ...

Hosiery & Finishing Machnry.—
Berridge, I. L., & Co., Leicester (Sole Proprietors Griswold Knitters) ... ...

Hosiery Yarns—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford ... ...

Humidifier Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester ... 2

Hydraulic Engineers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Hydraulic Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ... ...

Hydraulic Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Ice Machine Manufacturers—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London C

Incandescent Lamps—
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Hooper's Telegraph & India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

India-rubber Goods— PAGE
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C...

India-rubber Manufacturers—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C...
Harris, Joseph, Altrincham (Advertising Balloons, Squeakers, and Rubber Surgical Appliances) ...
India-Rubber, Gutta-Percha & Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Injectors—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Ink Manufacturers—
Blackwell & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Inkstands—
Darke, E., 14a, Gt. Marlborough Street, W. ... ...

Insecticides (Horticultural)—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. ... ...

Insulators—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C. .. C

Iron Buildings—
Ash, J., & Son, Rea Street, South Birmingham ... ...
Humphreys, Ltd., Knightsbridge, London, S.W. ...

Iron Plate Workers—
Ash, J., & Son, Rea Street, South Birmingham ... ...

Iron Safes—
Ratner Safe Co., Ltd., Hancock Road, Bow, E. ... ...

Ironfounders—
Roberts, J. & S., Ltd., West Bromwich ... ...
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee C
Saxby & Farmer, Canterbury Road, London, N.W. ...
Whittingham & Porter, Hull 14
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks 4

Ironmasters— PAGE
Baird, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Gartsherrie, N.B. 6
Parkgate Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham ... ...
Whiteley & Sons, Ltd., Huddersfield ... ...

Ironstone Adamant Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs. ... ...

Jute Weaving Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Knitting Machine Builders—
Stibbe, G., & Co., Leicester...
Harrison Patent Knitting Machine Co., Ltd., 227, Upper Brook Street, Manchester ... ...

Lacquer Manufacturers—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E...
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E. ... ...
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Lamp Manufacturers—
Bladon, T. E., 99 and 100, Northwood Street, Birmingham; London address, 4, Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, E.C. ... ...

Lathes (Turning, Polishing, &c.)—
Fabricotti, B., London, S.W..
Northern Engineering Co., Ltd., King's Cross, near Halifax 6

Launch Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Patricroft, Manchester ...

Launch Oil Engines—
The Seal Motor Co., Hammersmith, London ... ...

Lead Glazing—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N. ... ...

Lead Manufacturers—
Hall, W., Winstanley Road, Battersea, S.W.... ... ...

Leather Belting (Link)—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Leather Reviver— PAGE
Flack, Henry, London, S.E.

Leggings and Gaiters—
Wallace, Bailey & Wilkins, Bermondsey, London, S.E.

Lens Manufacturers for Ships and Railway Lamps—
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Letter Cutters—
Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield ... 2

Lifts—
Clark, Bunnett, & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. 24
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

Lightning Conductor Manufacturer and Erector—
Lewis, Joseph, 5 & 6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. 18

Lime Juice—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. ... ...

Liquorice Wafers—
Hillabys', Ltd., Pontefract...

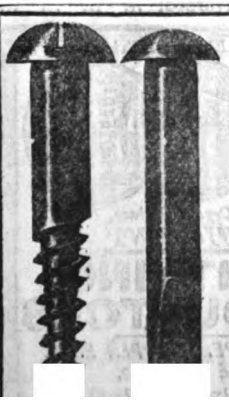
Lithographic Varnish—
Coates Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Locomotive Engine Builders—
Aveling & Porter, Ltd., Rochester C
Burrell, C., & Sons, Ltd., Thetford C
Garrett, R., & Sons, Leiston, Suffolk C

Looking Glass Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2
Robinson, J. B., 31, Moor Lane, E.C.... ... ...

Loom Makers—
Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee C

Lubricants—
Bremner, J. A., & Co., Manchester ... ...
Fleming, A. B., & Co., Edinburgh ... ...
Nobel Bros., Petersburg ...



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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Lubricants—*continued*— PAGE
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Lubricating Oils—
Light, Jas., & Son, Ltd., 9, Rumford Street, Liverpool
Nobel Bros., Petersburg ...
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Lubricators—
Nobel Bros., Petersburg ...

Machine Felts—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury

Machine Knives, Cutters & Blades—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... 3

Machine Makers—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee C

Machine Screws, Bolts, Nuts, &c.—
Acme Lathe Co., Ltd., The, Ardwick, Manchester ...

Magnesia—
Henry, T. & W., East Street, St. Peters, Manchester ...

Manchester Warehousemen—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E. ...

Manures (Chemical)—
Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ... ...
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith ... ...
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle ... ...
Thomson, Wm., & Sons, Ltd., Clovenfords by Galashiels (for Vines & Plants) ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

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Fabbricotti, B., Pimlico, London, S.W. ... ...

Marble Manufacturers of all Descriptions—
Fabbricotti, B., Pimlico, London, S.W. ... ...

Mattresses (Woven Wire)— PAGE
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Hay Mill, Birmingham ... ...
Lane, George, & Sons, Brueton Street, Birmingham ...

Medical Plasters—
De St. Dalmas, A., & Co., Leicester ... ...

Metal Merchants and Manfrs.—
Billington & Newton, Longport, Staffs. ... ...
Delta Metal Co., Ltd, London, E.C. ... ...
Dugard Bros., Birmingham...
King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

Metal Polish—
Baumgartner, J. F., & Co., London, W. ... ...

Military and Naval Ornaments—
Narborough, F., 40, 42, 44, Lombard Street, Birmingham ... ...
Wilkins, T. B., 52, Clement Street, Birmingham... ...

Mine Owners—
Wigan Coal & Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan (Producers of Best House, Gas and Steam Coals, and Wigan Cannel)

Mineral Waters—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. ... ...

Mining Lamps (all classes)—
Cooke, Joseph, & Son (Belmont Passage), 203, Lawley Street, Birmingham ... ...

Mortar and Pestle Manfrs.—
Bullers, Ltd., London E.C.... C

Mortice Furniture—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C.... C

Mosaic and Tiles Decoration—
Geary, Walker & Co., 11, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C. ... ...
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs. ... ...

Motors (Gas Tight)—
Hodgson, Wright & Wood, Halifax 2

Mushroom Ketchup— PAGE
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...

Musical Instrument Manfrs.—
Lachenal & Co., London, W.C.

Mustard Seed—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ...

Nails—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 25

Name Plate Makers—
Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield ... 1

Newspapers—
Colliery Guardian, 49, Essex Street, Strand, W.C. ... 12

Night Lights—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Oar Manufacturers—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool 10

Office Fittings—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Oilcake (Linseed and Cotton)—
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B. ... ...

Oil Cans—
Bladon, T. E., 99 & 100, Northwood Street, Birmingham; London address, 4, Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, E.C. ... ...
Kaye, Joseph, & Sons, Ltd., Leeds 14

Oil Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Manchester ... ...
The Seal Motor Co., Hammersmith, London ... ...

Oil Mill Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

Oil Refiners, Distillers, & Mfrs.—
Bremner, Jno. A., & Co., Manchester ... ...
Fleming, A. B., & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh... ... ...
Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

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PAGE

. Refiners, Distillers, and Manufacturers—*continued*—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C. ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

ıl Tiling—
The Permanent Decorative Glass Co., Ltd., Lancaster..

ı Crushing Machines—
Baxter, W. H., Leeds ... ...

ıns—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

ords Manufacturers—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow ... ...

des—
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

ygen. Cylinder Valves for—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow 22

int Manufacturers—
Hoyle, Robson, Barnett & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne...
Parker & Lester, London, S.E. (Antimony Paint) ...
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Robinson, E., & Co., Ltd., City Works, Sheffield ...
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

per Bag Makers (Home and Export)—
Higham Bros., Cone Works, Farnworth, near Bolton, Lancs.... ... ...

per Bags—
Smith, Stone & Knight, Ltd., Union Paper Mills, Birmingham ... ...

PAGE

Paper Makers—
Smith & McLaurin, Messrs., Ltd., Milliken Park, Scotland (Coated and Gummed Papers) ... ...
Tullis, R., & Co., Markinch, Fife ... ...

Paper Makers and Stationers (Wholesale and Export)—
Annandale, John, & Sons, Ltd., Shotley Grove, Durham ... ...
Dickinson, J., & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Ford, T. B., Loudwater, High Wycombe (Blottings)
Hodgkinson, W. S., & Co., Wells, Somerset ... ...
Hollingsworth & Co., Maidstone ... ...
Olive & Partington, Manchester ... ...

Paper Makers' Steel and Bronze Tools—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... 3

Paper Makers' Tools—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Sheffield 3

Parquet Flooring—
Geary, Walker & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Patent Fuel Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

Pavement Light Lenses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Birmingham ... ...

Paving Bricks—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Pen Manufacturers—
Gillott, J., & Sons, Birmingham 8

Perfumers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E....

PAGE

Perfumery Materials—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E....
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

Phosphor Bronze—
Billington & Newton, Longport, Staffs. ... ...

Photographic Process—
Platinotype Co., The, London, W.C. ... ...

Pianos, Organs, and Small Instruments—
Riley's on Constitution Hill, Birmingham ... ...

Pickles—
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...

Picks—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Pins (Toilet)—
Edridge, Merrett & Co., Ltd., Legge Street, Birmingham

Pistons—
Buckley, W., & Co., Millsands, Sheffield 3

Plate and Bar Manufacturers—
Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby ... ...

Plate Glass Manufacturers—
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C.

Plumbago—
Anglo-Italian Talc and Plumbago Mines Co., Ltd., 26, Old Hall Street, Liverpool

Poles, Telegraph—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C... C

Porcelain Paint—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. ... ...

Portable Buildings—
Humphreys, Ltd., Knightsbridge, London, S.W. ...

Portable Iron and Wood Buildings—
Iles, Robert, Ltd., Walham Green, London, S.W. ...

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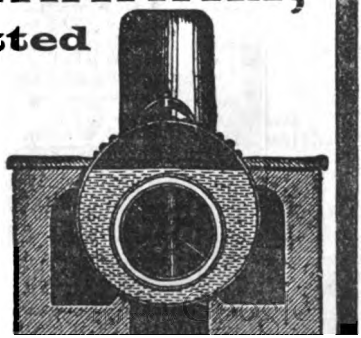

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Portland Cement— PAGE
Peters Bros., 34, Victoria Street, S.W. ... ...
West Kent Portland Cement Co., Burham, Rochester, Kent ... ...

Preservative for Stone, &c.—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. ... ...

Printers, Publishers, and Engravers—
Colliery Guardian Co., Ltd., 49, Essex Street, Strand, W.C. 12
Sheppard & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Smily & Shaw, London, E.C.

Printing Ink Manufacturers—
Blackwell & Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Coates Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Proprietary Articles, Specialities, &c.—
Baumgartner, J. F., & Co., London, W. ("La Brillantine" Metallic Powder)
Dalmas, A. de St., & Co., Leicester (Medical Plaisters)
Henry's Calcined Magnesia (T. & W. Henry), Manchester
Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Co., Lincoln (Clarke's Blood Mixture)..
Scott & Bowne, Ltd., London E.C. (Scott's Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil)... ...

Provision Merchants (Wholesale and Export)—
Griffiths, McAlister & Co., Liverpool ... ...
Gunson, Geo., Sons & Co. Liverpool ... ...
MacSimon's Stores, Ltd., Canning Place, Liverpool..
Nickson, G. & J., & Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Provisions (Importers and Exporters)—
Gunson, Geo., Sons & Co., 3, Atherton Street, Liverpool

Pulley Blocks— PAGE
Godfrey, J. T., Loughborough 22

Pulleys—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks 4

Pumping Engines—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London C
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. 1

Pumps—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London C
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Quarry Owners—
Freeman, J., Son & Co., London, W. 16
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Quilts, Covers, Toilettings, &c.—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester

Quiltings and Piques—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester

Railway Appliances—
Saxby & Farmer, Ltd., Canterbury Road, London, N.W. (Railway Signals, &c.) 23

Railway Brass Foundry—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Heath Mill Lane, Birmingham ... ...

Railway Lamp Lenses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham

Railway Signals—
Saxby & Farmer, Ltd., London, N.W. 23

Rain Water Separator—
Rogers, H. J., Shottermill, Haslemere ... ...

Reducing Valves for Compressed Gases—
Scotch & Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow 22

Refrigerators— PAGE
Haslam Foundry and Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Derby 1
Pulsometer Engineering Co., The, Reading and London C

Retorts—
Stevens, J., & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Rings and Springs—
Buckley, Wm., & Co., Millsands, Sheffield... 3

Rivet, Bolt, and Nut Manfrs.—
Gadd, Thos., Rowley Regis, Dudley ... ...
Guest, Keen, & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 25
Periam, H. W., Birmingham 17
Priest, B., & Sons, Oldhills, Staffs ... ...

Roof Glazing—
Grover & Co., Ltd London, N.

Roofing (Patent)—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N.

Roofing Tile Machinery—
Woolliscroft. G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs. ... ...

Roofing Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Rope Manufacturers—
Piggott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Rubber Tyres—
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N. ... ...

Sacks and Bags—
Judge, T. & W., London, E.C. (Cotton) ... ...
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool ... ...

Saddlery, Harness, &c., Mfrs.—
Rawle & Son, 231 and 232, Blackfriars Road, London, S.E. ... ...

Safe Manufacturers—
Hobbs, Hart, & Co., Ltd., London, N. ... ...
Ratner & Co., 51, Moorgate Street, E.C. ... ...

THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Safety Fuse Manufacturers—
Nobel's Explosive Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Salt—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Salvage and Dismantling Contractors—
Adams, John, & Sons, Broad Chare, Newcastle-on-Tyne

Sanitary Appliances—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Drain Pipes and Traps, Sanitary Earthenware. W.C. Basins, Urinals, and Washdown Closets, Enamelled Sinks) ... ...

Sanitary Paints—
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...

Sanitary Potters—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

Sauce Manufacturers—
Cocks, Chas., & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...

Saw Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield 3

Scrap Iron—
Adams, John. & Sons, Broad Chare, Newcastle-on-Tyne 2

Screw Hooks, Screw Eyes—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 25

Screwing Tackle—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ... ...

Screws and Spindles—
Dodd, Joseph. & Co.. Chester Works. Aston, Birmingham

Screws, Washers, Nails, &c.—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd.. Birmingham 25
Periam, H. W., Birmingham 17

Seals—
Pryor, E. & Son, Sheffield ... 2

Seed Merchants—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ...

PAGE

Seeds—
Cooper, Taber & Co., Ltd., London ... ...

Serge—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford... ... ...
Hamlyn Bros., Ltd., Buckfastleigh, Devon ... ...
Spinner & Co., Manchester...

Sewing Machines—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee C

Shaftings, Pulleys, Plummer Blocks, &c.—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks 4

Sheep Dip (both Arsenical and Nicotine)—
Richards, G. H., 234, Borough High Street. S.E. ... ...

Sheep Deep (Nicotine)—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E....

Sheep Dip Manufacturers—
Cooper, Wm., & Nephews, Berkhamsted, Makers of the Original Powder Dip...

Sheep Shearing Machines—
Cooper. Wm., & Nephews, 142, Illinois Street, Chicago, and Berkhamsted, England

Sheers—
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton C

Shipbuilders—
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton C

Shipping Agents—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Ship Stores and Chandlery—
MacSymon's Stores, Ltd., Canning Place, Liverpool..

Ships' Berths—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Bordesley, Birmingham... ...

PAGE

Ships' Lamp Lenses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham

Shirtings—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow ... ...

Shoe Rivets—
Edridge, Merrett & Co., Ltd., Legge Street, Birmingham

Shop Fittings—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2
Harris & Sheldon, Ltd., Stafford Street, Birmingham...

Shot (Hard and Soft)—
The Abbey Improved Chilled Shot Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne 2

Shovels—
Thornton, George, & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Shuttle Block Manufacturers—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool ... ...

Silk Weaving Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Sinks—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock, N.B.... ... ...

Slate Merchants and Manufrs.—
Davies Bros., Portmadoc, N. Wales ... ...
Williams, Richard, & Co., Portmadoc ... ...

Slipper Manufacturers—
Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge

Slipway Machinery—
Day, Summers, & Co., Ltd., Southampton C

Soap Manufacturers—
Ogston & Tennant, Ltd., Aberdeen ... ...
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Tennant, Charles, & Co., Glasgow ... ...

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Soap Manufacturers—*contd.* PAGE
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Hazlehurst Soap Works, Runcorn
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester (Hard and Soft Soaps)... ... ...

Soap Powders—
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Soap Stone—
Anglo-Italian Talc and Plumbago Mines Co., Ltd., 26, Old Hall Street, Liverpool

Soda—
Brunner, Mond, & Co, Northwich, Cheshire ... ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Spades—
Thornton, George, & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Sponge Cloths, &c.—
Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester... ... C

Stamp and Punch Makers—
Pryor, Edward, & Son, Sheffield 2

Stationers (Manufacturing and Export)—
Dickinson, John, & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Stay Busk Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... 3

Steam Boilers—
Hartley & Sugden, Halifax... 4

Steam Gauge—
Hodson, Wright & Wood, Halifax 2

Steam Pulsating Pumps—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London C

Steam Saw Mills—
Fabbricotti, B., London, S.W.

Steam Valves— PAGE
Shaw, J., Albert Works, Huddersfield ... ...

Steel Castings, Steel and Iron Forgings, &c.—
Baird, W., & Co., Glasgow ... 6
Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby
Fairley, J., & Sons, Birmingham ... ...
Lanarkshire Steel Co., The, Motherwell, N.B. 21
Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Steel and Iron Shafting, &c.—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee C
Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Steel Manufacturers—
Brown, Bayley's Steel Works, Ltd., Sheffield ... ...
Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield 3
Fairley, J., & Sons, Birmingham ... ...
Lanarkshire Steel Co., The, Motherwell, N.B. 21
Parkgate Iron and Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham ... ...
Power, F. A., & Sons, Saltley, Birmingham ... ...
Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Steel Pen Makers—
Gillott, J., & Sons, London and Birmingham... 8

Steel Ropes—
Cradock, G., & Co., Wakefield

Steel Tubes—
Russell, J., & Sons, Ltd., Wednesbury ... ...

Stencil Plates—
Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield ... 2

Stone Breakers—
Baxter, W. H., Ltd., Leeds...

Stone, Solution for Preservation of—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E.

Stoves—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

Strong Rooms— PAGE
Hobbs, Hart & Co., Ltd., London, N.... ... ...

Sugar Refiners—
Tate, Henry, & Sons, Ltd., London and Liverpool ...

Sulphate of Copper—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Sulphate of Soda Manufacturers—
Blythe, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs. ... ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Sulphuric Acid Manufacturers—
Blythe, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs. ... ...
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith ... ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Sulphuric Acid Manufacturers' Retorts—
Stevens, J., & Sons, Birmingham ... ...

Surgical India Rubber Mfrs.—
Harburg and Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C..

Surgical Instrument Mfctr.—
Harris, Joseph, Altrincham (Rubber Goods) ... ...

Syphons and Seltzogenes—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W.

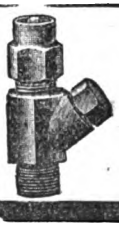
Tailors' Trimming Warehousemen—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E....

Tallow—
Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Tanks—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Tar and Rosin Distillers—
Brotherton & Co., Leeds ...
Robinson, E., & Co., Ltd., City Works, Sheffield ...

Tarpaulin Manufacturers—
Piggott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...



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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Tea Merchants—
Tower Tea Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Teak Timber—
Denny, Mott & Dickson, Ltd., 165, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C. ... ...

Telegraph Engineers—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C... C
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Telegraph Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Helsby, Warrington ... ...

Telephones—
Telegraph Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Helsby, Warrington ... ...

Tents, Marquees and Camp Furniture—
Piggott Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Textile Engineers & Machinists—
Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Textile Machinery Manufrs.—
Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Textile Manufacturers—
Hamlyn Bros., Buckfastleigh, Devon ... ...
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London. E ...
Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale ... ...
Spinner, E., & Co., Manchester

Tiles, Tessellated and Glazed—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Timber Merchants—
Denny, Mott & Dickson, Ltd., 165, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C... ...
Gradwell, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness, Lancs.

PAGE

Timber Merchants and Importers—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Liverpool 10
Gradwell, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness, Lancs.

Tin Boxes and Canisters—
Tinplate Decorating Co., Ltd., The, Neath 13

Tobacco Flavour Manufacturers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. ...
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...

Tool Manufacturers—
Luke & Spencer, Ltd.. Broadheath, Manchester 8
Thornton, George, & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Towels—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester

Traction Engines—
Aveling & Porter, Ltd., Rochester C

Tube Mill Machinery—
Jones, George, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

Tubes and Fittings—
Dugard Bros., Birmingham..
Russell, J., & Sons, Ltd., Wednesbury ... ...
Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

Tweeds—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E....
Platt, Jas., & Co., 77, St. Martin's Lane, W.C.... ...

Twines—
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool ... ...

Typewriter—
Yost Typewriter Co., Ltd., The, London, E.C. ... ...

PAGE

Tyre Manufacturers—
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N.... ... ...

Valves for Compressed Gases—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow 22

Varnish Manufacturers—
Blackwell & Co., Dyer's Buildings, E.C.... ... ...
Flack, Henry, London, S.E...
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E. ... ...
Palmer, W. H., & Co., 82, Old Street, E.C. ... ...
Parker & Lester, London, S.E. (Parker's Imperial Black)... ... ...
Robinson, E., & Co., Ltd., City Works, Sheffield ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Vegetable Colours—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E ...
Confectioners' Vegetable Colour and Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., The, London, N.E. ... ...
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Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

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Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Bolton ... 2

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Waiter and Tray Manufacturers—
Frank Hawker Carpathian Silver Co., Ltd., 52, Spencer-street, Birmingham ... ...

Washers—
Periam, Herbert W., Ltd., Floodgate-street Works, Birmingham 17

Watch and Clock Manufacturers—
Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 & 34, Cockspur-street, London ... ...

Water Meters, Sluice Valves, Steam Valves and Fire Appliances—
Simpson, J., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. 1

Waterproof Manufacturers—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C...
Piggott Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Waterproof Paint Manufacturers—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E.

Water Softeners—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading C

Water Taps—
Palatine Engineering Co., Ltd., Liverpool 8

Weaving Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Wheels—
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N.... ... ...

Whip and Walking Stick Makers—
Narborough, F., 42 & 44, Lombard-street, Birmingham ... ...

White Lead Manufacturers—
Mersey White Lead Co., Ltd., Warrington ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

PAGE

Wine and Spirit Merchants—
Chaplin, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, W.C. ... ...
Crawford, Daniel, & Son, Ltd., Glasgow ... ...
Dailuaine-Talisker Distilleries, Ltd., Head Offices, 50, Wellington-street, Glasgow (Whisky from solely pure Malt) ... ...
Distillers Co., Ltd. (The Edinburgh "D.C.L." Whisky and Gin) ... ...
Hills & Underwood, London, E.C. ... ...
Morgan & Co., Hamburg ...

Wire Manufacturers—
Cradock, G., & Co., Wakefield ... ...
Dugard Bros., Birmingham (Brass and Copper) ... ...
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham (Wire Nails, Rods, Bars, Hoops, &c.) 25
Power, F. A., & Son, Saltley, Birmingham ... ...
Shipman, J., & Co., Attercliffe, Sheffield ... ...

Wire Rope Manufacturers—
Cradock, G., & Co., Wakefield ... ...
Lewis, Joseph, 5 & 6, Great Winchester-street, London, E.C. 18

Wireworkers and Weavers—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...
Power, F. A., & Son, Saltley, Birmingham ... ...

Wood Block Flooring—
Geary, Walker & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Wood Stains—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E.
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E. ... ...

PAGE

Wolsey Unshrinkable Wool-Underwear—
Walker, R., & Sons, Rutland Street, Leicester ... ...

Wool Importers—
Hall, John, & Sons, Liverpool ... ...

Wool, Tops, Noils, Wastes, &c.—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford... ... ...

Woollen, Cotton, and Linen Cloths for Machinery—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury 26

Woollen Machinery Manufacturers—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury (Power Looms and all kinds of Weaving Machinery) ... ...

Woollen Warehousemen and Manufacturers—
Grainger & Smith, Dudley...
Hamlyn Bros., Ltd., Buckfastleigh, Devon ... ...
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E. ...
Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale ... ...
Platt, James, & Co., Woollen Merchants and General Warehousemen, London, W.C. ... ...
Spinner, E., & Co., Manchester

Worsted and Woollen Yarns—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford ... ...

Worsted Suiting Manufacturer—
Dickinson, Herbert, 14, Northumberland Street, Huddersfield ... ...

Yacht Builders—
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton C

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AREA, &c.—The present BUTE DOCKS are 111 acres in extent, and vessels loading up to 12,000 tons regularly trade there.

The NEW SOUTH DOCK, which is rapidly approaching completion, will have a water area of 50 acres. It is 2,500 feet in length, 500 feet in breadth, and 50 feet in depth from the coping; and will be capable of accommodating the LARGEST VESSELS AFLOAT. The Sea Lock will be 850 FEET IN LENGTH, and 80 FEET IN BREADTH, with a depth of water over the cill of 42 FEET at ordinary spring tides, and 32 FEET at ordinary neap tides. Two Large Graving Docks, up to 850 FEET IN LENGTH, and entered from THE DOCK, are about to be constructed.

MACHINERY AND APPLIANCES.—The Bute Docks are equipped with the most IMPROVED Appliances for the discharging and loading of vessels with dispatch; the greater portion being worked by HYDRAULIC PRESSURE. There is an ample equipment of Cranes of various power up to 70 TONS, as well as Grain Elevators, &c., &c.

Special attention may be drawn to the NEW 70-TON CRANE in the ROATH DOCK, thus enabling THE CARDIFF RAILWAY COMPANY to ship or unship THE HEAVIEST WEIGHTS.

COAL SHIPPING FACILITIES.—Coal is being shipped at these Docks by the ordinary Fixed, as well as Moveable Staiths; as also by the LEWIS-HUNTER PATENT COALING CRANES. The Cardiff Railway Company have the EXCLUSIVE use in the Bristol Channel of the LEWIS-HUNTER Coaling Cranes, which have proved by far the most satisfactory appliances for shipping Welsh Coal, with dispatch and the Least Possible Breakage. Colliery screened coal shipped by these cranes being equal to double screened coal shipped by ordinary Staiths, and thereby ensuring to the purchaser an INCREASED VALUE OF AT LEAST ONE SHILLING per ton over that of coal put on board by shipping appliances at other Docks, besides ensuring great SAVING IN BREAKAGE and uniformity of distribution throughout the cargo of any small coal that might exist; thus minimising any risk of spontaneous ignition from small coal in cargoes bound for distant ports. THREE OR MORE CRANES can be worked simultaneously into one vessel, and as much as 330 TONS have been shipped by one crane in an hour, and 4,773 TONS have been shipped into a vessel in 10 HOURS. Shippers attach so much importance to the advantages of these Cranes that they frequently elect to wait some time for a CRANE BERTH rather than have their coal shipped by the usual staiths.

The NEW SOUTH DOCK will be entirely equipped with these COALING CRANES, in deference to the wishes of so many shippers and buyers of CARDIFF COAL.

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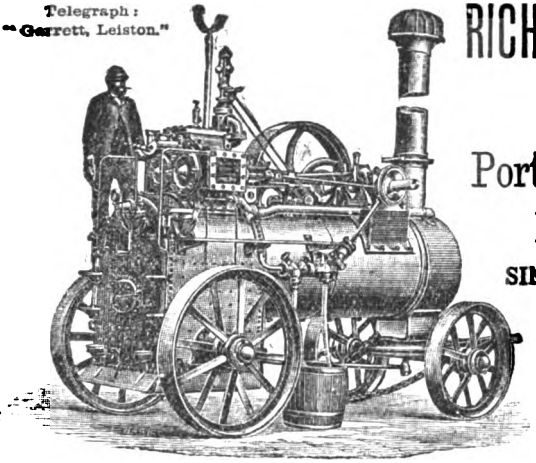

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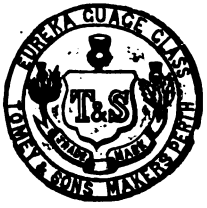

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THE Board of Trade Journal

(With which is incorporated the "Imperial Institute Journal.")

Edited by the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

MARCH 9, 1905.

	PAGE
OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE	436
EMPIRE GROWN COTTON	444
SAMPLES ON VIEW AT 73, BASINGHALL STREET, E.C.	
CHANGES IN THE MONTHLY TRADE ACCOUNTS FOR 1905	444
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE	447
FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM IN FEBRUARY, 1905 ...	447
BRITISH TRADE IN ARGENTINA	454
TRADE OF NATAL IN 1904	456
MANGROVE BARK INDUSTRY OF MOZAMBIQUE	459
TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS	461
SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT	463
MINERALS, METALS, AND MACHINERY	463
AGRICULTURE	464
MISCELLANEOUS	467
STATISTICAL TABLES	473
GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS (BOARD OF TRADE,* FOREIGN OFFICE, COLONIAL OFFICE, &c.)	479

For list of contents in detail see p. vii. *of Advertisements.*

* *For list of principal publications of Board of Trade see p.* v. *of Advertisements.*

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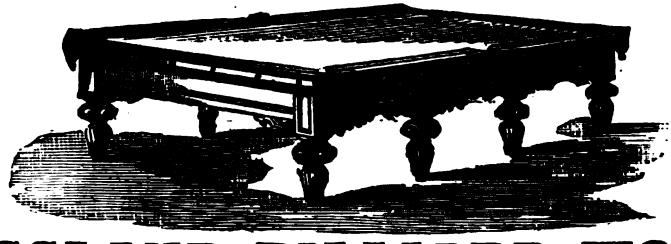

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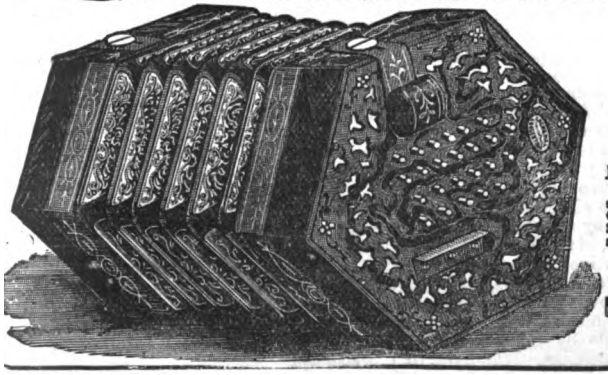

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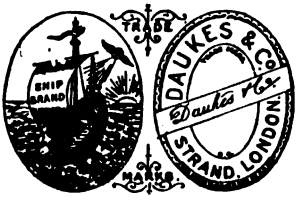

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Board of Trade Journal.

MARCH 9TH, 1905.

CONTENTS.

PAGE

Openings for British Trade 436

United Kingdom.—Tenders for Supply of Forage and Paillasse Straw.

British Colonies, &c.:—

British India.—Tenders for Creosoted Pine Sleepers.
Opening for Motor Cars.

Canada.—Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

Australian Commonwealth.—Opening for Baths and Fittings.

Cape Colony.—Tenders for Hardwood Sleepers and Jarrah Timber.
Opening for Drainage Material, Electric Lighting and Power Plant and for Water Supply Works.

Transvaal.—Tenders for Arc Lamps and Lanterns for Electric Lighting.

Foreign Countries:—

Openings for Trade in Norway, Denmark, Germany, Belgium, Senegal, Mozambique, Spain, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria, Nicaragua, Chile and Argentina.

Forthcoming Exhibition:—

Paris.

Empire Grown Cotton 444

Samples on View at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

Changes in the Monthly Trade Accounts for 1905 444

Annual Meeting of the Association of Chambers of Commerce 447

Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in February, 1905 447

British Trade in Argentina 454

Trade of Natal in 1904 456

Mangrove Bark Industry of Mozambique 459

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations 461

Australian Commonwealth. Straits Settlements. Germany. Spain. Italy. Japan.

Shipping and Transport 463

Facility of Transfer of Vessels to Argentine Register.

Minerals, Metals, and Machinery 463

Natal Coal Output and Export in 1904. Automobile Industry in France. Importation of British Creosote into Galveston.

Agriculture 464

Molascuit Industry in British Guiana. Samples of Jamaica Tobacco on view at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C. Regulations for the Collection and Sale of Rubber in French West Africa. Output of Dried Fruits, Raisins, Prunes and Canned Fruit in California. Bounty for Rubber Trees in Ecuador.

Miscellaneous 467

Pearl-shell and Beche-de-Mer Fisheries of Queensland in 1903. Adoption of Standard for Local Time in the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States. Exports from Singapore and Penang in 1904. Bad Prospect for the Timber and Wood Pulp Trade in Norway. Brest-Dakar Cable. Issue of New Ten Kronen Notes in Austria-Hungary. Regulations as to Calcium Carbide and Acetylene in Austria. Foreign Trade of Montenegro. Denatured Alcohol Regulations Modified in Peru. Exports from Argentina in 1904. Proposed New Regulations of Trade on the West River (China).

Statistical Tables 473

Cotton Returns (Week and Month).
Corn Prices.
Imports of Agricultural Produce.
Bankruptcy Statistics (England and Wales).
Emigration Statistics.

Government Publications 479

Board of Trade Returns and Labour Gazette. Note of Foreign Office Reports issued during the week. List of Foreign Office Reports, arranged geographically, also a list of Colonial Office Reports issued since the beginning of the year.

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THE

Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. XLVIII.] March 9, 1905. [No. 432

In a notice on p. 482 will be found a statement of the objects and work of the **Commercial Intelligence Branch** of the Board of Trade.

The Branch has been moved from 50, Parliament Street to 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

"Advantage, London" is the registered telegraphic address of the Branch.

The Temporary Enquiry Office, hitherto at 49, Eastcheap, E.C., has also been moved to 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

Attention is directed to the Sample Room at the latter address, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute or the Indian or Colonial Governments are exhibited from time to time. At present there are on view, among other exhibits, seven samples of tobacco, grown in Jamaica (see p. 465), also eleven samples of cotton grown within the Empire, received from the British Cotton Growing Association (see p. 444).

All applications respecting subscription to the "Board of Trade Journal," or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

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OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS: WAR OFFICE.

Forage and Paillasse Straw.

Sealed tenders for the supply of forage and straw for paillasses for military services, during six months, from the 1st May, 1905, will be received until noon, on Monday, the 27th March, by the General Officers commanding the undermentioned districts:—

Aldershot Army-Corps Command ...	Aldershot.
Southern Command 4th Division ...	Tidworth House, Andover.
" " Western District.	Devonport.
" " Southern District	Portsmouth.
Eastern Command 5th Division ...	Dover.
" " 6th Division ...	Colchester.
" " Thames District ...	Chatham.
" " Woolwich District.	Woolwich.
Irish Command 7th Division ...	Curragh.
" " 8th Division ...	Cork.
" " Belfast District ...	Belfast.
Scottish Command	Edinburgh.
Northern Command	York.
Welsh and Midland Command ...	Chester.
London District	23, Carlton House Terrace, S.W.
Guernsey and Alderney District ...	Guernsey.
Jersey District	Jersey.

Forms of tender and conditions of contract may be obtained on application at the above-named Head Quarter Offices, by letter addressed to the Officer Commanding, Army Service Corps, or in person between the hours of 10 and 4 o'clock.

The tenders must be properly filled up, signed and dated; and no tender will be noticed unless delivered upon the proper form, in time, at the above-named Head Quarter Offices, under sealed envelope, marked "Tender" on the outside.

BRITISH INDIA.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS: INDIA OFFICE.

Creosoted Pine Sleepers.

The Secretary of State for India in Council is prepared to receive tenders from such persons as may be willing to supply—

Creosoted pine sleepers.

The conditions of contract may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.), or may be obtained on application to the Director-General of Stores, India Office, Whitehall, S.W. Tenders are to be delivered at the latter office by 2 p.m. on Tuesday, the 14th March, after which time no tender will be received.

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Openings for British Trade.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

Motor Cars.

According to the "Madras Mail," the Director-General of Post Offices has under consideration the question of employing motor cars in India for postal purposes.

CANADA.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following were among the recent enquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the **Canadian Government Offices, Victoria Street, S.W.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—A produce commission merchant at Glasgow wishing to increase his business with Canada has asked for addresses of creameries, cheese factories, and shippers of dairy produce in the Dominion.

The addresses of Canadian exporters of honey have been enquired for.

A London firm of fruit importers have asked that their name may be placed before apple shippers in Canada, as, having good connections in London and the provinces, they are in a position to dispose of large quantities.

Canadian Enquiry.—A Canadian manufacturer of show cases, who is prepared to ship these goods in the "knock-down" condition with or without glass, has asked to be placed in communication with reliable commission agents in Great Britain.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, Victoria Street, S.W.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

Enamelled, &c., Baths and Fittings.

In a recent report, the Canadian Commercial Agent at Melbourne (Mr. D. H. Ross), says that application was lately made at his office for catalogues and export price lists of enamelled and porcelain-lined baths with complete fittings. To give some idea of the demand for these articles, he instances the case of an apartment house, which, at the date of his report, was about to be erected in Melbourne. This house required 47 high-class baths, and also the usual sanitary fittings sold in connection therewith. Mr. Ross adds that manufacturers of these goods should be aware of the fact that the demand for baths in Australia—owing to the climatic conditions—is a very large and constant one.

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Openings for British Trade.

CAPE COLONY.

Hardwood Sleepers and Jarrah Timber.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by their Correspondent at Cape Town that tenders are invited for the supply, to the Cape Government Railways, of hardwood sleepers and Jarrah timber, as follows:—

1. *Hardwood sleepers*:—

188,000.	Dimensions, 5 feet	6 ins.	by 7 ins.	by 4 ins.
125.	,,	6 ,,	,, 7 ,,	4 ,,
225.	,,	7 ,,	,, 7 ,,	4 ,,
125.	,,	8 ,,	,, 7 ,,	4 ,,
65.	,,	11 ,,	,, 7 ,,	4 ,,

2. *Hardwood sleepers.*—Alternative tenders for either

(*a*) 170,000. Dimensions, 7 ft. by 10 ins. by 5 ins.
6,150 crossings. Dimensions, 10 in. by 5 ins.
} For delivery during the year 1905.

or (*b*) 1,153,000. Dimensions, 7 ft. by 10 ins. by 5 ins.
38,400 crossings. Dimensions, 10 in. by 5 ins.
} For delivery during the years 1905, 1906 and 1907.

3. *Jarrah timber*:—
220 Jarrah logs.
33,000 cubic feet Jarrah planks.

A limited number of specifications with forms of tender have been received, and may be obtained (until the supply is exhausted) at the Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

Tenders will be received in each case by the Chairman of the Tender Board, Control and Audit Office, Parliament Street, Cape Town, up to noon on the 3rd April, 1905.

Drainage Material.

The "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" of 10th February, notifies the intention of the Municipality of Paal to raise a loan of 20,000*l.* for a storm-water drainage scheme.

Electric Lighting and Power Plant.

The same "Gazette" contains the text of a private Bill, which it is proposed to introduce into the Cape Parliament during the ensuing session, to authorise the Town Council of Port Elizabeth to construct the necessary works for the supply of electrical energy for lighting and power purposes.

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Openings for British Trade.

CAPE COLONY—*continued.*

Water Supply Works.

The "Gazette" of 14th February contains a notice of the intention of the Town Council of Bedford to introduce a Bill into Parliament to authorise the Council to acquire an improved water supply. For the purpose of carrying out the works contemplated under this Bill, it is proposed to raise a loan of 13,000*l.*

The same "Gazette" notifies the intention of the Municipality of Queenstown to introduce a Bill authorising the Town Council to supplement and increase the water supply of that district by constructing a reservoir and all the necessary works connected therewith. For this purpose it is proposed to borrow the sum of 90,000*l.*

TRANSVAAL.

Arc Lamps and Lanterns for Electric Lighting.

The Municipal Council of Johannesburg are prepared to receive tenders for the supply of—

30 direct current arc lamps and
30 lanterns for above.

General conditions, specifications and forms of tender may be seen at the offices of the Council's Consulting Engineers, Messrs. Mordey & Dawbarn, 82, Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W., and may be obtained from them on payment of five guineas, which will be returned on receipt of a *bonâ fide* tender.

Further copies of the general conditions, specifications and tender forms may be obtained on payment of 10*s.*, which will not be returned.

Tenders are to be addressed to Messrs. Mordey & Dawbarn, 82, Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W., and must reach them not later than noon on Monday, 13th March.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender, and are not responsible for the cost of tendering.

NORWAY.

Engine Coal.

With reference to the notice published at p. 395 of last week's issue of the "Board of Trade Journal" respecting a call for tenders for the supply to the Norwegian State Railway Authorities of 99,250 tons of best quality engine coal, a further communication has been received from H.M. Consul-General at Christiania (Viscount Melville), transmitting a complete translation of the original Norwegian announcement containing full particulars as to the delivery of the coal, &c.

This translation may be consulted at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

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Openings for British Trade.

DENMARK.

Coal.

According to a notice which appears in the "Berlingske Tidende" of 6th March, about 3,660 tons of coal will be required by the Frederiksberg Commune, Copenhagen, during the financial year 1905–6. Further particulars may be obtained from the office of the Commune, 5, I, Mynstervej, Copenhagen.

Railway and Bridge Construction.

According to the "Journal des Tarifs et Traités de Commerce" (Paris), the Associated Chambers of Commerce of Jutland have asked the Danish Minister of Public Works to undertake the doubling of two railway lines and the construction of a high fixed bridge over the Little Belt. It is estimated that the cost of these works would amount to 75,000,000 crowns (about 4,160,000*l.*).

GERMANY.

Gas Coal.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from H.M. Consul-General at Hamburg translation of a notice inviting tenders for the supply of 5,150,000 kilos. (about 5,150 tons) of English gas coal, for the use of the Gas Works at Wandsbek (near Hamburg).

The conditions under which the same are to be supplied may be obtained on application to the Gas Works, at a cost of 80 pfennigs (9½*d.*) per copy.

Tenders should be sent in before 10 a.m. on 24th March, addressed to the "Gas-Anstalt," (Gas Works), Wandsbek, Hamburg, and marked "Kohlenlieferung."

BELGIUM.

Paving Work.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp (Mr. E. Cecil Hertslet) that the municipal authorities of that city have issued a notice inviting tenders for the supply and laying of paving stones in the following streets:—Rue des Images, Rue Basse, Rue St. Gommaire, and one side of La Place St. Jean. The estimated cost of the work is from 8,884*l.* to 9,321*l.* A deposit of 492*l.* is required to qualify any tender.

Specifications may be obtained from the Hôtel de Ville, Antwerp. Tenders in registered envelopes, addressed to the Burgomaster at the Hôtel de Ville, will be received up to the 13th March.

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Openings for British Trade.

FRANCE—SENEGAL.

Electric Light and Power Installation.

H.M. Consul at Dakar (Capt. C. F. Cromie) reports, in a recent despatch, that it is in contemplation to establish an electric installation at Dakar for the purpose of lighting the town, and furnishing the necessary power for an electric tramway, and for the various civil and military services.

The Government has already been approached by two firms, one offering to undertake the electric lighting, and the other to furnish the power for a tramway, &c.

Before, however, coming to a decision, the Government has determined to fix the necessary requirements and conditions; and with this object has nominated a commission to thoroughly study the question, and draw up a list of the conditions to be fulfilled.

PORTUGAL—MOZAMBIQUE.

Lighthouse Construction: Buoys.

The "Boletin Official" of Mozambique of 4th February notifies the appointment of a Royal Commission to formulate a scheme for the provision of lighthouses and buoys on the coast of that province.

SPAIN.

Tramway Plant.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 2nd March contains a notice calling for tenders, which will be opened at noon on 5th May next in the Directorate-General of Public Works, Madrid, for a concession to construct and work for sixty years a tramway (animal traction) from Valencia to Moncada. The competition will turn, in the first place, on a reduction of the passenger rates set out in the "Gaceta," and then, in the event of tenders at equal rates, on a reduction of the number of years of the concession. It is to be noted that the concession is based on an application by Don Pascual Lierns y Giner, who, on equal terms, has certain preferential rights. A deposit of 10,413 pesetas (about 313*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Local representation is necessary.

Electric Tramway Plant.

The "Gaceta" of 4th March contains an announcement to the effect that an application, accompanied by a plan and guarantee, having been presented by Don Damaso Rodriguez Arango for a concession for an electric tramway from Carthagena to La Union, one month from the date of publication of the said announcement in the "Gaceta" is allowed for the presentation of applications, accompanied by their corresponding plans and guarantees, upon terms more favourable to the Authorities.

The "Gacetas" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

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Openings for British Trade.

ITALY.

Water Power Plant.

The "Bollettino delle Finanze" (Rome) states that the Prefect of Turin has granted Signor Gerolamo Campostella an appropriation of water from the Lys waterfall for the production of motive power for a sawmill in the commune of Fontainemore, territory of Girin delle Mirene.

In the same issue of the "Bollettino" a concession is said to have been granted by the Prefect of Florence to Count Ludovico Guicciardini for an appropriation of water from the river Bisenzio, for the production of motive power for a woollen mill in the commune of Cantagallo.

AUSTRIA—HUNGARY.

Coal.

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" (Brussels) states that tenders will be opened on the 23rd March, at the Offices of the Kaschau-Oderberg Railway, Budapest, for the annual supply of 109,200 tons of coal for the period of one, three, or five years.

BULGARIA.

Rolling Stock, Harbour Works, &c.

A despatch has been received from the Acting British Agent and Consul-General at Sofia (Mr. C. M. Marling) reporting that the Bulgarian Minister of Public Works, Ways and Communications has demanded an extraordinary credit of 14,642,645 lei (585,705*l.*) for his Department.

Of this sum, 2,725,000 lei are for the purchase of rolling stock (including 20 locomotives), and the improvement of permanent-way, buildings, &c.; 1,045,000 lei for harbour improvements at Bourgas and Varna, and the balance is to be devoted to various miscellaneous undertakings.

NICARAGUA.

Railway Plant.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Managua (Mr. H. W. B. Harrison, C.M.G.) forwarding translation of the contract made between the Government of Nicaragua and Mr. Julio Weist for the construction of the railway from Punta de Monos, on the Atlantic coast, to San Miguelito, on the Lake of Nicaragua, referred to on p. 347 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 25th August, and p. 202 of the "Journal" of 3rd November last.

The translation may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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Openings for British Trade.

CHILE.

Harbour Works at Valparaiso.

With reference to the notice on p. 154 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 26th January and to previous notices respecting the construction of harbour works at Valparaiso, the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have now received from H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Santiago (Mr. A. C. Kerr) a translation of the Decree calling for tenders for these works. It is understood that contractors can obtain copies of plans, specifications and all information from the Chilean Legation in London, 29, Queen's Gate Terrace, South Kensington, S.W.

The translation may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

ARGENTINA.

Buoys: Beacons.

The "Boletin Oficial" of Argentina of 6th February publishes a Decree, authorising the Director-General of Hydraulic Works to invite tenders for 53 cylindrical buoys and 16 beacons for facilitating navigation in the river Uruguay. The cost of these buoys and beacons is estimated at 26,457 pesos, national currency (about 2,480*l.*).

The "Boletin" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

FORTHCOMING EXHIBITION.

FRANCE.

International Milling and Bakery Exhibition.

The United States Consul-General at Paris reports that an international exhibition of milling and allied trades will be held in Paris, at the Galerie des Machines, from 29th April to 4th June, 1905. The committee in charge reserve the privilege of prolonging the period for a time, if desired.

All exhibits from abroad will be allowed to enter France free of duty, to be re-exported at the termination of the exhibition, which for the purpose will be considered as a bonded warehouse. Enquiries from those desiring to exhibit or take part should be addressed before the end of March, to Mr. G. Cornibert, Commissaire-Général, 29, Rue Jean Jacques Rousseau, Paris. Exhibits must be delivered at the Galerie des Machines, Paris, by 24th April, 1905.

The different sections proposed are as follows:—(1) Social economy; (2) general milling; (3) bread and confectionery; (4) pharmaceutical and chemical; (5) lighting, heating, and ventilation; (6) machines and motors; (7) different processes; (8) dress and hygiene; (9) agricultural and horticultural; (10) practical information, congress, and conferences.

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EMPIRE GROWN COTTON.

Samples on view at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

Referring to the notice on p. 402 of last week's "Journal," the following are the particulars and valuations of the samples of cotton on view in the sample room at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., viz.:—

No. 1.—Grown from Sea Island in Barbados. Sold at 17*d.* per lb. Value "Fine" Sea Island same date, 17*d.* per lb.

No. 2.—Grown in Nyassaland from Egyptian seed. Value 7¾*d.* per lb. Value "Good Fair" Brown Egyptian same time, 8¼*d.* per lb.

No. 3.—Grown from Native seed, Volta River, West Africa. Sold at 7·25/100*d.* Value "Moderate Rough" Peruvian same date, 7·90/100*d.*

No. 4.—Grown from Native West Indian seed. Sold at 6¾*d.* Value "Fair" Pernam same date, 6¾*d.* per lb.

No. 5.—Grown in Barbados from Egyptian seed. Sold at 6½*d.* Value "Good Fair" Brown Egyptian same date, 7*d.* per lb.

No. 6.—Grown in St. Vincent, West Indies, from American seed. Sold at 5·54/100*d.* Value "Middling" American same date, 5·54/100*d.*

No. 7.—Grown in Nyassaland and from American seed. Sold at 5·20/100*d.* Value "Middling" American same date, 4·20/100*d.*

No. 8.—Grown from American seed, Bathurst, Gambia. Value, 5·25/100*d.* Value "Middling" American same date, 5·40/100*d.*

9.—Grown from Native seed, Sierra Leone. Sold at 5·12/100*d.* Value "Middling" American date, 5·40/100*d.*

10.—Grown from Native seed, Lagos, Nigeria. Value 4·50/100*d.* Value "Middling" American same date, 4·79/100*d.*

No. 11.—Grown from American seed, Lagos, Nigeria. Sold at 3·80/100*d.*

CHANGES IN THE MONTHLY TRADE ACCOUNTS FOR 1905.

The Board of Trade desire to direct attention to the fact that several important changes have been introduced into the statements relating to imports and exports to be contained in the "Monthly Accounts of Trade and Navigation" for 1905. A comparison of the Accounts for January with those issued during each month of 1904 will show that the changes made, so far as they relate to the specification of new headings or to changes in previously existing ones, are as follow:—

I.—Import Section of the Accounts.

In Group I. of this section relating to imports of "Food, Drink and Tobacco," a new heading has been raised for "oils, refined or

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Changes in the Monthly Trade Accounts for 1905.

edible," under which have been placed cocoanut, cotton-seed, olive and palm oils, of the descriptions indicated, leaving the corresponding "unrefined or raw" kinds in Group II.

In Group II., the imports of "manganiferous iron ore" are now distinguished from other kinds. "Silk waste noils" have been separated from "knubs or husks of silk and waste." The imports under "skins and furs undressed and dressed" have now been separately classified, undressed skins being placed under the heading of "hides and undressed skins" in this Group, under which heading are enumerated separately "rabbit skins undressed" and "seal skins undressed," whilst a new heading has been raised in Group III., Section N, for "skins and furs dressed," with sub-divisions for "rabbit skins" and "seal skins." These were formerly included in "other articles" in the same section.

In Group III., "Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured," pig-iron has been sub-divided so as to show "spiegeleisen and ferromanganese" from other sorts, and "iron castings," "iron forgings," "steel castings" and "steel forgings," which were previously included in "iron and steel manufactures unenumerated," are now separately distinguished. In this Group also, the heading for "silk manufactures" has been sub-divided so as to show separately the imports "wholly of silk," and of "silk mixed with other materials (silk predominating)." In each of these sub-divisions, a separate sub-heading has been raised for "lace and articles thereof," and under the headings of "broad-stuffs" (wholly of silk) and "ribbons" (wholly of silk), those of "silk or satin" are distinguished from those of "velvet, plain or figured." In Section I, of this Group a separate heading is now made for "hats and bonnets of felt" formerly included with "hats and bonnets of other materials," *i.e.*, materials other than straw. In Section J, under the heading "painters' colours and pigments," "nickel oxide" and "zinc oxide" are now distinguished from "other sorts." The imports of "paper, printed" have been reclassified as followed:—"printed paper-hangings" and "other printed or coated paper." "Strawboard, millboard and wood-pulp Board" have been sub-divided to show "strawboard" separately. "Carriages, waggonettes, and carts," other than cycles, motors and parts thereof are now shown separately as well as "parts thereof." Additional information is also given under various headings in this Section of the Accounts in respect of the Countries from which goods are imported.

II.—Section relating to Exports of British and Irish Produce.

In this Section of the Accounts, besides various additions as regards the statement of countries to which goods are exported, and a few minor changes, the following alterations are noticeable:—

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Changes in the Monthly Trade Accounts for 1905.

As in the case of the Import Section of the Accounts, the export of "oils, refined or edible," are now shown separately under Group I., as distinguished from "oils, unrefined or raw," in Group II. The heading for "pickles, vinegar, sauces and condiments (including chutney)" has now been sub-divided to show vinegar separately, the quantity of the exports of vinegar being recorded as well as the value.

In Group II. "manganiferous iron ore" is now distinguished from other sorts. Separate headings have been raised for "silk knubs (or husks) and waste" and "waste noils" of silk.

As regards Group III. separate totals are now given of "spiegeleisen and ferro-manganese pig-iron," and separate particulars of "iron forgings," "iron castings," "steel forgings," and "steel castings." The heading of "wire (including telegraph wire) and manufactures thereof" has been sub-divided to show "manufactures thereof" separately. The headings for "tubes and fittings" and "pipes" have been reclassified as follows: "Tubes and pipes and fittings, wrought" and "pipes and fittings cast." In the Textiles Section the heading of "cotton piece goods printed" has been sub-divided into "handkerchiefs and shawls in the piece or not" and "piece goods printed, other sorts." The whole of the tables for silk have been re-arranged as far as possible to correspond with the new classification of imports. Under a new heading of "hats and bonnets trimmed and untrimmed," sub-divisions are given for "felt," "straw," and "other sorts." Formerly "trimmed hats" were included in "haberdashery and millinery" by value only, and "untrimmed hats" were shown under one heading, "hats of all descriptions." Painters' colours and materials have been sub-divided to show "nickel oxide" and "zinc oxide" from "other sorts." The heading for "cycles and parts thereof (other than motor cycles)" has been sub-divided so as to show complete cycles separately from parts, and the former heading for "other descriptions of carriages and parts thereof" has been similarly sub-divided.

III.—Section relating to Exports of Foreign and Colonial Produce.

In this Section the changes in classification are mainly on the lines of those indicated in the import section. It may be of interest to note that the exports of tea to European Russia are now shown separately; formerly they were included in the total of "Countries in Europe."

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ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

The forty-fifth annual meeting of the Association of Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom was held at the Hotel Metropôle, Whitehall Place, S.W., on the 28th February and 1st and 2nd March, 1905, the chair being taken each day by Sir William H. Holland, M.P. (president).

Resolutions on the following subjects were dealt with, viz.:—Portuguese Tariff; Canal Development; Royal Commission on Railways; Railway Classification of Goods; Fiscal Policy; Transport Facilities in Crown Colonies; French Congo; Minister of Commerce; Metric System; Decimal Weights; Speculation in Raw Materials; Municipal Trading Finance; Patent Law Amendment; Trade Marks; Indian Trade Mark Registration; Rating of Machinery; Sugar Tax; Municipal Franchise (Companies) Bill; Public Companies and Debentures; Companies Liquidation; County Courts (Ireland); Alcohol for Manufactures; Closing of Ben Nevis Observatories; Suez Canal Regulations; Board of Trade Shipping Regulations; Alien Pilots; Light Dues on Shipping; Manning of the Mercantile Marine; Marine Insurance Bill; Trustees' Investment Powers; Commutation of Rates; Income Tax; Parcel Post; Telegraphic Communication with the Continent; Telegraphic Communication; Anglo-French Telephone Service; Newspaper Postage; Newspaper Postage to Canada; Procedure at General Meetings of the Association.

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM IN FEBRUARY, 1905.*

I.—GENERAL.

The trade returns for February, 1905, when compared with those for the corresponding month of 1904, show a decrease in the value of the **Imports** into the United Kingdom, but an increase in the value of the **Exports** of British produce, and also of the **Exports** of foreign and Colonial merchandise.

The value of the **Imports** in February, 1905, was 42,844,937*l.*, a decrease of 1,265,582*l.*, or 2·9 per cent., as compared with February, 1904, whilst the total **Exports** amounted to 32,888,786*l.*, or an increase of 1,588,632*l.* The **Exports** of British produce alone show an increase of 1,374,250*l.*, or 5·8 per cent., as compared with February, 1904, whilst there is an increase of 214,382*l.*, or 2·9 per cent., in the **Exports** of foreign and Colonial merchandise.

II.—IMPORTS.

The following table shows the value of the **Imports** for February, 1905, as compared with the corresponding month of 1904 and 1903, according to the different categories of merchandise:—

*Reference should be made to the article on "Changes in the Monthly Trade Accounts for 1905," published at pp. 444-6, for information as to the changes which have been made in these accounts.

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in February, 1905.

Imports from Foreign Countries and British Possessions.*

—	Month ended February. 1903.	1904.	1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1903.
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—					
A. Grain and flour	4,477,711	5,296,165	4,675,226	— 620,939	+ 197,515
B. Meat, including animals for food.	3,566,146	3,727,386	3,930,283	+ 202,897	+ 364,137
C. Other food and drink—					
1. Non-dutiable	4,356,231	4,890,150	4,151,483	— 738,667	— 204,748
2. Dutiable	2,948,285	3,103,071	3,455,997	+ 352,926	+ 507,712
D. Tobacco	310,247	310,484	241,994	— 68,490	— 68,253
Total, Class I. ... £	15,658,620	17,327,765	16,454,983	— 872,273	+ 796,363
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—					
A. Coal, coke, and patent fuel ..	43	134	113	— 21	+ 70
B. Iron ore, scrap iron, and steel ...	371,532	283,616	357,188	+ 73,572	— 14,344
C. Other metallic ores...	448,643	546,000	618,579	+ 72,579	+ 169,936
D. Wood and timber	775,525	987,192	665,171	— 272,021	— 110,354
E. Cotton	4,579,124	5,265,011	3,779,867	— 1,485,144	— 799,257
F. Wool	2,747,519	2,922,673	4,032,780	+ 1,110,107	+ 1,285,261
G. Other textile materials	988,878	1,523,823	1,214,619	— 309,204	+ 225,741
H. Oil seeds, nuts, oils, fats, and gums...	1,777,934	2,113,393	1,813,900	— 299,493	+ 35,966
I. Hides and undressed skins ...	579,033	530,891	578,636	+ 47,745	— 397
J. Materials for paper making ...	197,065	186,601	208,628	+ 22,027	+ 11,563
K. Miscellaneous	1,635,188	1,764,706	1,868,017	+ 103,311	+ 232,829
Total, Class II. ... £	14,100,484	16,074,040	15,137,498	— 936,542	+ 1,037,014
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	606,374	567,283	584,203	+ 16,920	— 22,171
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	1,281,675	1,605,175	1,741,866	+ 136,691	+ 460,191
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments	336,655	299,972	263,580	— 36,392	— 73,075
D. Telegraph cables and apparatus	9,506	2,985	11,235	+ 8,250	+ 1,729
E. Machinery	352,216	326,570	317,689	— 8,881	— 34,527
F. Ships (new)	6,370	2,468	204	— 2,264	— 6,166
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture) ...	163,150	153,963	136,451	— 17,512	— 26,699
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton	721,527	565,283	635,709	+ 70,426	— 85,818
2. Wool	1,000,668	989,170	1,052,832	+ 63,662	+ 52,164
3. Other materials	1,680,573	1,546,848	1,726,614	+ 179,766	+ 46,041
I. Apparel	218,935	240,950	285,692	+ 44,742	+ 66,757
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	729,340	726,638	723,485	— 3,153	— 5,855
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes and gloves)	935,892	845,213	826,227	— 18,986	— 109,665
L. Earthenware and glass	329,701	341,516	294,923	— 46,593	— 34,778
M. Paper...	383,644	385,416	377,917	— 7,499	— 5,727
N. Miscellaneous	1,844,921	1,929,279	2,083,003	+ 153,724	+ 238,082
Total, Class III. ... £	10,601,147	10,528,729	11,061,630	+ 532,901	+ 460,483
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post) £	200,334	180,494	190,826	+ 10,332	— 9,508
Total value of Imports £	40,560,585	44,110,519	42,844,937	— 1,265,582	+ 2,284,352

*The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance, and freight; or when goods are consigned for sale, the latest sale value of such goods.

Comparing the values of the imports of articles last month with those of February, 1904, the chief increases and decreases are as shown in the following statement:—

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in February, 1905.

Increases.

			£
I.	A.	Wheat	179,571
	B.	Mutton, fresh ...	310,670
	C2.	Sugar, refined, and sugar candy ...	96,708
		Sugar, unrefined...	374,140
II.	B.	Iron ore	68,435
	F.	Sheep or lambs' wool	1,072,176
	H.	Tallow and stearine	50,049
II.—*ctd.*	I.	Sheep skins, undressed	77,519
	K.	Caoutchouc... ...	93,871
		Nitrate of soda ...	156,376
III.	B.	Tin, in blocks, ingots, &c. ...	153,372
	H2.	Woollen stuffs ...	85,331
	H3.	Silk manufactures of all sorts ...	108,939

Decreases.

			£
I.	A.	Wheat meal and flour...	390,834
		Barley...	370,057
	B.	Bacon	61,598
		Poultry and game	65,242
	C1.	Butter...	147,117
		Cheese...	66,028
		Fish, cured or salted	103,832
		Apples, raw ...	80,243
		Hops	107,850
		Lard	50,424
		Potatoes	173,851
	C2.	Cocoa, raw	111,842
	D.	Tobacco, unmanufactured... ...	50,574
II.	D.	Wood and timber, hewn	64,530
		Wood and timber, sawn or split ...	161,036
	E.	Cotton, raw... ...	1,476,230
	G.	Flax, dressed and undressed ...	69,548
		Hemp, dressed and undressed ...	186,800
	H.	Petroleum	262,781
		Lac-dye, seedlac, &c.	60,279
III.	B.	Copper, unwrought and part wrought	99,768
		Oil seed cake, not sweetened ...	59,263

The following instances of increase in value combined with decrease in quantity, or *vice versâ*, may be noted, viz. :—

			Increase.	Decrease.
I.	B.	Bacon	10,556 cwts. ...	£61,598
		Hams	5,003 „ ...	£16,276
	C2.	Coffee	£1,720	704 cwts.
		Condensed milk, sweetened ...	651 cwts. ...	£2,953
		Sugar, refined, and sugar candy	£96,708	274,958 cwts.
		Wine	51,356 gals. ...	£7,900
	D.	Tobacco, manufactured, and snuff	4,827 lbs. ...	£17,916
II.	E.	Raw cotton	16,538 cwts. ...	£1,476,230
	G.	Raw silk	207 lbs. ...	£3,406
	J.	Esparto and other vegetable fibres	£7,539	850 tons.
		Wood pulp, chemical, wet ...	£1,252	86 „
	K.	Caoutchouc	£93,871	4,569 cwts.
III.	A.	Iron and steel rails	75 tons ...	£3,646
	E.	Steam engines	£6,834	101 tons
		Machinery, not steam engines or electrical	£1,856	450 „
	J.	Brimstone	£1,906	136 cwts.
		Painters' colours and pigments.	£1,642	5,060 „
	K.	Gloves	£2,149	7,202 doz. prs.
	M.	Paper, printed	1,141 cwts. ...	£1,027
	N.	Stones, slabs, &c.	1,098 tons ...	£8,306

III.—EXPORTS.

The following table shows the value of the **Exports** of British produce for the month of February, 1905, as compared with the corresponding month of 1904 and 1903, and the increase or decrease in each principal category :—

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in February, 1905.

Exports of British Produce.*

—	Month ended February. 1903.	1904.	1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1903.
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—					
A. Grain and flour	109,536	126,013	168,880	+ 42,867	+ 59,344
B. Meat, including animals for food	48,985	41,838	41,402	— 436	— 7,583
C. Other food and drink	836,240	822,850	862,904	+ 40,054	+ 26,664
D. Tobacco	45,425	61,823	73,936	+ 12,113	+ 28,511
Total, Class I. ... £	1,040,186	1,052,524	1,147,122	+ 94,598	+ 106,936
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—					
A. Coal, coke and patent fuel ...	1,956,744	1,946,110	2,086,031	+ 139,921	+ 129,287
B. Iron ore, scrap iron and steel ...	26,415	28,770	40,905	+ 12,135	+ 14,490
C. Other metallic ores...	10,233	11,723	10,124	— 1,599	— 109
D. Wood and timber	1,968	2,772	10,356	+ 7,584	+ 8,388
E. Cotton	—	—	—	—	—
F. Wool	109,134	106,476	78,076	— 28,400	— 31,058
G. Other textile materials	13,886	10,954	20,410	+ 9,456	+ 6,524
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats and gums...	250,678	215,889	186,214	— 29,675	— 64,464
I. Hides and undressed skins ...	126,531	126,265	161,622	+ 35,357	+ 35,091
J. Materials for paper making ..	33,753	32,382	44,250	+ 11,868	+ 10,497
K. Miscellaneous	125,433	153,616	149,691	— 3,925	+ 24,258
Total, Class II. ... £	2,654,775	2,634,957	2,787,679	+ 152,722	+ 132,904
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	2,321,694	2,065,822	2,157,868	+ 92,046	— 163,826
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	505,422	552,519	560,578	+ 8,059	+ 55,156
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments	322,332	352,425	367,274	+ 14,849	+ 44,942
D. Telegraph cables and apparatus..	19,676	39,645	76,853	+ 37,208	+ 57,177
E. Machinery	1,335,047	1,504,471	1,471,466	— 33,005	+ 136,419
F. Ships (new)	135,325	227,827	456,624	+ 228,797	+ 321,299
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture) ...	117,459	98,023	82,554	— 15,469	— 34,905
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton...	6,298,878	7,149,195	7,583,263	+ 434,068	+ 1,284,385
2. Wool	2,288,598	2,447,926	2,628,495	+ 180,569	+ 339,897
3. Other materials	1,013,380	1,079,452	1,050,413	— 29,039	+ 37,033
I. Apparel	748,975	535,662	497,718	— 37,944	— 251,257
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	1,164,361	1,179,487	1,226,006	+ 46,519	+ 61,645
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes, and gloves)	450,424	383,617	426,649	+ 43,032	— 23,775
L. Earthenware and glass	262,485	266,608	233,550	— 33,058	— 28,935
M. Paper...	143,997	160,528	150,461	— 10,067	+ 6,464
N. Miscellaneous	1,662,113	1,896,438	2,028,471	+ 132,033	+ 366,358
Total, Class III. ... £	18,790,166	19,939,645	20,998,243	+ 1,058,598	+ 2,208,077
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post) £	290,309	267,687	336,019	+ 68,332	+ 45,710
Total value of Exports of British produce ... £	22,775,436	23,894,813	25,269,063	+ 1,374,250	+ 2,493,627

Exports of Foreign and Colonial Produce.

	£	£	£	£	£
Total value...	6,138,328	7,405,341	7,619,723	+ 214,382	+ 1,481,395

* The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship, and are known as the "free on board" values.

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in February, 1905.

Comparing the values of the exports of the principal articles of British produce and manufacture in February, 1905, with those of February, 1904, the chief increases and decreases are as follow:—

Increases.

			£
II.	A.	Coal, coke, and patent fuel	139,921
III.	A.	Iron and steel and manufactures thereof ...	92,046
	F.	Ships, new	228,797
	H1.	Cotton piece goods	546,057
	H2.	Woollen tissues	239,434
		Worsted tissues	50,836
	J.	Chemical manure	93,021
	N.	Arms, ammunition, and military stores ...	72,062
IV.		Parcel post	73,469

Decreases.

			£
III.	B.	Copper unwrought and wrought...	65,925
	H1.	Cotton manufactures other than piece goods and yarn	97,747
	H2.	Wool tops	50,261
		Worsted yarn	75,498
	H3.	Haberdashery and millinery	65,573

The following instances of increase in value combined with decrease in quantity, or *vice versâ*, may be noted, viz.:—

			Increase.	Decrease.
II.	C.	Metallic ores other than iron ore	234 tons	... £1,599.
III.	H1.	Cotton yarn	497,200 lbs.	... £14,242.
	H2.	Wool flannels	11,400 yards	... £5,522.
		,, carpets	£3,002 ...	... 62,300 yards.
	J.	Coal products, not dyes... ...	72,408 cwts.	... £26,153.
	L.	Chinaware or porcelain and earthenware	4,262 cwts.	... £37,123.
	N.	Books, printed	£29,390...	... 876 cwts.
		Brooms and brushes	£1,099 ...	... 681 dozens.
		Skins and furs dressed	£9,695 ...	... 24,146 number.
IV.		Horses, live	149 number	... £3,870.

IV.—TRADE DURING THE FIRST TWO MONTHS OF 1905.

The following table shows the value of the **Imports** from foreign countries and British possessions during the two months ended 28th February last, as compared with the corresponding periods of the two previous years:—

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in February, 1905.

Imports from Foreign Countries and British Possessions.*

	Two Months ended February.			Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1903.
	1903.	1904.	1905.		
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—					
A. Grain and flour	9,239,105	10,612,516	9,810,489	− 802,027	+ 571,384
B. Meat, including animals for food	7,784,860	7,785,771	8,011,528	+ 225,757	+ 226,668
C. Other food and drink—					
1. Non-dutiable...	9,273,533	9,869,422	9,282,126	− 587,296	+ 8,593
2. Dutiable	6,496,135	6,512,465	7,502,454	+ 989,989	+ 1,006,319
D. Tobacco	769,778	727,926	648,280	− 79,646	− 121,498
Total, Class I. ... ... £	33,563,411	35,508,100	35,254,877	− 253,223	+ 1,691,466
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—					
A. Coal, coke and patent fuel ...	1,114	942	1,115	+ 173	+ 1
B. Iron ore, scrap iron and steel ...	864,578	653,145	829,493	+ 176,348	− 35,085
C. Other metallic ores...	975,185	1,205,004	1,323,535	+ 118,531	+ 348,350
D. Wood and timber	1,662,425	1,976,207	1,403,022	− 573,185	− 259,403
E. Cotton	10,557,775	12,025,221	9,934,279	− 2,090,942	− 623,496
F. Wool	5,770,683	5,323,617	7,331,554	+ 2,007,937	+ 1,560,871
G. Other textile materials	2,201,955	3,237,608	2,872,666	− 364,942	+ 670,711
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats, and gums	4,054,542	4,275,199	3,633,073	− 642,126	− 421,469
I. Hides and undressed skins ...	1,247,013	1,077,104	1,209,830	+ 132,726	− 37,183
J. Materials for paper making ...	455,478	470,416	482,372	+ 11,956	+ 26,894
K. Miscellaneous	3,380,176	3,537,950	3,736,507	+ 198,557	+ 356,331
Total Class II. ... £	31,170,924	33,782,413	32,757,446	− 1,024,967	+ 1,586,522
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	1,350,626	1,189,806	1,230,900	+ 41,094	− 119,726
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	2,584,150	3,085,822	3,466,941	+ 381,119	+ 882,791
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments	647,325	590,393	542,884	− 47,509	− 104,441
D. Telegraph cables and apparatus..	17,036	6,734	17,148	+ 10,414	+ 112
E. Machinery	733,358	633,103	650,535	+ 17,432	− 82,823
F. Ships (new)	12,820	2,855	721	− 2,134	− 12,099
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture) ...	341,968	317,542	277,929	− 39,613	− 64,039
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton...	1,358,724	1,119,222	1,263,961	+ 144,739	− 94,763
2. Wool	2,094,016	1,880,137	2,114,835	+ 234,698	+ 20,819
3. Other materials	3,421,796	3,104,762	3,323,190	+ 218,428	− 98,606
I. Apparel	392,854	429,564	528,500	+ 98,936	+ 135,646
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	1,471,329	1,369,545	1,469,204	+ 99,659	− 2,125
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes, and gloves)	1,928,329	1,665,384	1,703,933	+ 38,549	− 224,396
L. Earthenware and glass	703,074	671,036	620,888	− 50,148	− 82,186
M. Paper	790,820	762,298	787,969	+ 25,671	− 2,851
N. Miscellaneous	3,768,553	3,738,026	4,237,078	+ 499,052	+ 468,525
Total, Class III. ... £	21,616,778	20,566,229	22,236,616	+ 1,670,387	+ 619,838
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post) ...	435,987	386,297	362,458	− 23,839	− 73,529
Total ... ... £	86,787,100	90,243,039	90,611,397	+ 368,358	+ 3,824,297

* The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance and freight; or when goods are consigned for sale, the latest sale value of such goods.

The value of the **Exports** of home produce and of foreign and colonial produce during the first two months of 1905, as compared with the corresponding periods of 1904 and 1903 is as shown in the following table:—

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in February, 1905.

Exports of British Produce.*

	Two Months ended February.			Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1903.
	1903.	1904.	1905.		
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—					
A. Grain and flour	250,676	249,557	326,197	+ 76,640	+ 75,521
B. Meat, including animals for food.	100,424	97,716	93,504	— 4,212	— 6,920
C. Other food and drink	1,843,008	1,758,225	1,853,853	+ 95,628	+ 10,845
D. Tobacco	107,898	124,252	154,676	+ 30,424	+ 46,778
Total, Class I. ... £	2,302,006	2,229,750	2,428,230	+ 198,480	+ 126,224
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—					
A. Coal, coke, and patent fuel ...	4,215,336	3,941,359	4,062,764	+ 121,405	— 152,572
B. Iron ore, scrap iron, and steel ...	54,704	64,717	69,846	+ 5,129	+ 15,142
C. Other metallic ores	16,508	18,723	20,720	+ 1,997	+ 4,212
D. Wood and timber	5,593	6,156	17,257	+ 11,101	+ 11,664
E. Cotton	—	—	—	—	—
F. Wool	202,869	191,563	221,843	+ 30,280	+ 18,974
G. Other textile materials	26,534	18,729	36,199	+ 17,470	+ 9,665
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats, and gums	496,950	431,000	358,461	— 72,539	— 138,489
I. Hides and undressed skins ...	268,306	266,069	325,391	+ 59,322	+ 57,085
J. Materials for paper making ...	66,975	66,894	87,525	+ 20,631	+ 20,550
K. Miscellaneous	292,894	312,794	339,859	+ 27,065	+ 46,965
Total, Class II. ... £	5,646,669	5,318,004	5,539,865	+ 221,861	— 106,804
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	4,723,931	4,383,664	4,462,831	+ 79,167	— 261,100
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	1,029,375	1,069,471	1,109,390	+ 39,919	+ 80,015
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments	701,825	740,594	758,003	+ 17,409	+ 56,178
D. Telegraph cables and apparatus	110,753	216,795	135,737	— 81,058	+ 24,984
E. Machinery	2,855,955	2,946,241	3,068,578	+ 122,337	+ 212,623
F. Ships (new)	482,694	442,093	584,200	+ 142,107	+ 101,506
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture) ...	258,245	207,552	191,697	— 15,855	— 66,548
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton	13,001,650	14,086,575	14,884,622	+ 798,047	+ 1,882,972
2. Wool	4,745,732	4,994,309	5,495,060	+ 500,771	+ 749,348
3. Other materials	2,176,445	2,182,164	2,079,581	— 102,583	— 96,864
I. Apparel	1,562,487	1,115,691	994,612	— 121,079	— 567,875
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	2,320,579	2,283,276	2,409,720	+ 126,444	+ 89,141
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes and gloves)	893,613	723,030	842,675	+ 119,645	— 50,938
L. Earthenware and glass	533,206	486,359	483,801	— 2,558	— 49,405
M. Paper	292,935	307,776	308,054	+ 278	+ 15,119
N. Miscellaneous	3,412,641	3,644,968	3,792,300	+ 147,332	+ 379,659
Total, Class III. ... £	39,102,066	39,830,558	41,600,881	+ 1,770,323	+ 2,498,815
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post) £	628,331	599,866	689,864	+ 89,998	+ 61,533
Total value ... ... £	47,679,072	47,978,178	50,258,840	+ 2,280,662	+ 2,579,768

Exports of Foreign and Colonial Produce.

	£	£	£	£	£
Total value	12,206,046	13,117,341	13,733,610	+ 616,269	+ 1,527,564

* The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship and are known as the "free on board" values.

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in February, 1905.

V.—SHIPPING IN FEBRUARY, 1905.

The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes, during the month ended February, 1905, amounted to 2,698,370 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 3,693,272 tons, as against 2,890,600 tons entered and 3,507,167 tons cleared in the month of February, 1904. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during February, 1905, amounted to 2,490,119 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,479,409 tons, as against 2,546,482 tons entered, and 2,485,106 tons cleared in February, 1904.

VI.—TWO MONTHS' SHIPPING (JANUARY-FEBRUARY).

The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes, during the two months ended February, 1905, amounted to 5,631,509 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 7,413,859 tons, as against 5,869,961 tons entered and 7,178,132 tons cleared during the corresponding period of 1904. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during the first two months of 1905 amounted to 5,109,170 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 5,057,542 tons, as against 5,201,140 tons entered and 5,093,969 tons cleared during the corresponding period of 1904.

BRITISH TRADE IN ARGENTINA.

The following particulars respecting the trade of the Argentine Republic are extracted from a report by H.M. Consul at Buenos Aires (Mr. Carnegie Ross):—

"Agricultural implements pay no duty and the Customs officials do not object to importers declaring low values in the entries. This is done in view of the possibility of the present declared values being taken as base for a future *ad valorem* charge. The figures for 1903 in this class of goods are United States 600,000*l.*, and Great Britain 160,000*l.* . . . .

"The returns of the following articles, viz.: white and coloured cottons, woollen goods, wool and cotton mixed, iron and steel rails, railway materials, galvanized iron, hessians, sheep-dip, fencing, wire, bar and flat iron ploughs . . . . show that in each one of the classes the United Kingdom has had a share during each of the past 20 years. Other countries have not put in an appearance in each class each year. In 1885 Germany does not appear in railway material, sheep dip, wire and iron. France does not appear in hessians, dip, wire and iron. . . . . The United States appear in cotton goods and railway materials. . . . . In every one of these articles the United Kingdom has every year a share, now rising now falling, whereas other countries appear irregularly, as if a shipment had been made as a trial or under some special circumstances.

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British Trade in Argentina.

"Rails are not specially mentioned before 1898, and galvanized wire is not mentioned till 1895. Ploughs practically come only from the United States and the United Kingdom.

"In 1903 Germany appears in every class but sheep dip; France in every class but hessians, dip, railway material, wire, and galvanized and rough iron; Italy makes a very good show, in cottons (80 per cent. of United Kingdom) and woollens, but does not appear in the metal classes at all. The United States did not export hither textiles, rails or railway material, galvanized iron, hessians, or rough iron."

In a recent report of a Spanish trade expert as to what is necessary to develop trade between Spain and Argentina, stress is laid upon the importance of commercial travellers, and the necessity, among other qualifications, of their knowing the Customs tariffs, what their competitors are doing, and why, and the manufacture and cost of their wares.

The following tables show the quantity of the imports with Argentina of (1) cotton yarns and (2) cotton cloths of all kinds during each of the years 1900-1903:—

Imports of Cotton Yarns.

	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Germany	210	110	201	269
Italy...	1,282	1,010	1,349	1,593
Belgium	79	92	187	233
United Kingdom	798	827	1,029	1,353
France	49	16	112	112
United States of America...	12	187	318	168
Holland	—	—	12	127
Switzerland	—	—	11	67
Other Countries	—	—	—	2
Total...	2,430	2,242	3,219	3,924

Imports of Cotton Cloth of all kinds.

	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Germany	782	1,143	656	1,253
Italy...	4,058	4,223	3,884	4,240
Belgium	501	337	342	419
United Kingdom	11,244	8,600	8,086	10,589
France	351	277	351	405
United States of America...	127	119	85	93
Holland	—	2	9	34
Switzerland	—	—	16	86
Spain	37	43	39	48
Other Countries	3	1	2	17
Total	17,103	14,745	13,470	17,184

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TRADE OF NATAL IN 1904.

With reference to the notice on pp. 398-9 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 1st December last, the following information relating to the value of the trade of Natal for the year ended 31st December, 1904, as compared with the year 1903, is based on statistics published in a supplement to the "Natal Government Gazette" for 31st January last.

I.—Imports.

The following table shows the value of the total imports of the principal categories of merchandise into Natal (by sea) in 1903 and 1904, distinguishing Government stores and bullion and specie:—

Articles.	Year ended 31st December.	
	1903.	1904.
	£	£
Provisions, exclusive of corn and dairy products (*includes coffee, lard, meats, frozen and preserved, jams, fish, hams and bacon, sugar, tea, vegetables, farinaceous foods, fruits, condiments, salt, &c.*) ...	1,827,000	1,642,000
Metals and manufactures of (*includes agricultural implements, hardware, ironmongery, machinery, sewing machines, &c.*)	2,210,000	1,459,000
Apparel, haberdashery, &c. (*includes millinery, hats, hosiery, slops, &c.*)	1,734,000	1,015,000
Corn and grain (*includes rice*)	1,380,000	727,000
Wood and manufactures (*includes cabinetware*) ...	1,094,000	568,000
Dairy products (*includes butter, margarine and ghee, eggs, cheese, and condensed milk*)	538,000	482,000
Beverages (*includes ale, spirits, wine and aërated waters*)	468,000	345,000
Leather and manufactures (*includes saddlery*) ...	594,000	340,000
Stationery (*includes books and paper of all kinds*) ...	268,000	218,000
Oilman's stores (*includes oils and paints*)	249,000	218,000
Drugs and chemicals	185,000	148,000
Soap and candles	135,000	139,000
Tobacco, raw and manufactured...	118,000	120,000
Bicycles, tricycles, motor cars, &c.	122,000	88,000
Woollen manufactures	228,000	82,000
Glass and glassware	105,000	80,000
Cotton manufactures	184,000	74,000
Jewellery and plated ware (*includes clocks and watches*)	91,000	74,000
Bags, empty (*except paper and leather bags*)	31,000	71,000
Instruments, musical, mathematical and scientific ...	113,000	66,000
Cocoa, chocolate and confectionery	73,000	60,000
Carriages and carts	126,000*	59,000
Forage	132,000	55,000
Railway and tramway material	57,000	55,000
Earthen, china, stone ware and marble	83,000	54,000
Toys and fancy ware	80,000	53,000
Cement	74,000	48,000
Floorcloths	68,000	43,000
Arms and ammunition (*includes blasting compounds*)...	50,000	40,000
Live animals	236,000	39,000
Electrical fittings	60,000	34,000
Manures	25,000	19,000
Brushware	25,000	18,000
Cordage and rope	25,000	17,000
Linen manufactures	11,000	7,000
Other articles of merchandise (*including goods by foreign parcels post*)	1,060,000	901,000
Total merchandise ... £	13,859,000	9,458,000
Stores for Natal Government	859,000	876,000
" " Transvaal Government	282,000	317,000
" " Repatriation Department	12,000	—
Bullion and specie...	1,156,000	87,000
Imported as merchandise, but delivered free of duty for military purposes	54,000	23,000
Grand total ... ... £	16,222,000	10,761,000

* Included motor vehicles in 1903; these are now included with bicycles, tricycles, &c.

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Trade of Natal in 1904.

The following table shows the value of the total imports into and exports from Natal (by sea) during 1904 (exclusive of bullion and specie), as compared with 1903, distinguishing the various countries:—

Countries.	Imports.		Exports.	
	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	8,560,177	6,274,690	1,462,006	1,230,200
Australia	825,516	796,159	3,108	3,390
Canada	208,111	179,498	954	43
Cape Colony	225,158	153,557	364,048	328,519
India	451,228	357,684	21,816	16,028
Mauritius	12,328	79,484	682	1,216
New Zealand	287,813	124,330	18	—
Other British Colonies	37,616	66,477	1,090	2,600
Total, British and Colonial...	10,607,947	8,031,879	1,853,667	1,581,996
Belgium	176,454	169,338	1,943	5,374
Germany	746,884	377,217	151,430	203,301
Sweden	420,856	213,561	—	7
United States of America	1,674,261	1,075,063	1,640	994
Argentine Republic	999,801	514,773	—	22
Other Countries	439,251	292,112	131,862	85,811
Total, foreign	4,457,507	2,642,064	286,875	295,509
Grand total of Imports £	15,065,454	10,673,943		
Bunker coal and ships' stores ...	...	...	306,014	397,017
Grand total of Exports ...	...	... £	2,446,556	2,273,522

The values of goods imported overland in 1904 (as compared with 1903) from the Orange River and Transvaal Colonies, Pondoland and East Griqualand, which are not included in the above tables, are as follows:—

——	1903.	1904.
	£	£
From Orange River Colony	36,446	18,971
„ Transvaal*	42,692	93,760
„ Pondoland	9,326	8,152
„ East Griqualand	209,397	196,475

* Exclusive of raw gold amounting to 1,138,768*l.* in 1903 and 917,181*l.* in 1904.

The principal article imported overland from these places is wool, the value of which in 1904 was 13,019*l.* from Orange River Colony, 50,694*l.* from Transvaal, 181*l.* from Pondoland, and

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Trade of Natal in 1904.

102,786*l.* from East Griqualand. The two last-named districts chiefly send live animals to Natal, the value for 1904 having been from Pondoland 7,468*l.*, and from East Griqualand 62,938*l.*

II.—Exports.

The following table shows the values of the exports of Colonial produce by sea from Natal during the years 1903 and 1904:—

Articles.	Year ended 31st December.	
	1903.	1904.
	£	£
Coal (bunker and cargo)	302,000	402,000
Wool (sheep's)	292,000	289,000
Bark	71,000	93,000
Sugar...	162,000	82,000
Hides and skins	23,000	34,000
Hair (Angora)	31,000	29,000
Fruit, fresh	15,000	23,000
Tea	15,000	11,000
Tobacco	8,000	4,000
Other articles of Colonial produce	28,000	79,000
Total ... ... £	947,000	1,046,000

Among the "other articles of Colonial produce" exported in 1904, may be noted carriages and carts (1,479*l.*), coffee (2,447*l.*), ostrich feathers (1,615*l.*), jams and jellies (1,592*l.*), matches (7,000*l.*), gold slag (9,245*l.*), and soap (1,286*l.*).

In addition to the above, 885,016*l.* worth of Colonial products and manufactures were exported overland (known as the "overberg" trade) during the year 1904, as compared with 582,385*l.* during the preceding year. The value of the goods sent overland to each of the different destinations is shown in the following table:—

To	1903.	1904.
	£	£
Transvaal	447,972	669,984
Orange River Colony	105,303	134,940
Cape Colony...	7,500	44,470
East Griqualand	10,036	11,552
Pondoland	10,556	21,068
Basutoland	177	164
Rhodesia	841	2,838
Total ... ... £	582,385	885,016

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MANGROVE BARK INDUSTRY OF MOZAMBIQUE.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul at Beira (Mr. R. C. F. Greville), forwarding the following brief account of a somewhat interesting development in the northern portion of the Province of Mozambique, namely, the collection and shipment of the bark of the red mangrove for use in tanneries. Mr. Greville remarks that this industry, to which attention has only been directed during the past three years, shows signs of assuming an entirely unforeseen importance should the apparently firm demand continue.

"A somewhat novel industry, which has been slowly coming into prominence for the past two or three years in the northern portion of the Portuguese East African Possessions, is that of the collection, preparation, and export to Europe and America of the bark of the red mangrove. The valuable astringent properties of this commodity have attracted attention both in America and in European countries where they are largely utilized in the process of leather tanning; considerable quantities have been already shipped, and the probability is that the trade is destined to become one of some importance in the future.

"Extensive forests of mangroves are found throughout all the bays, estuaries, and river mouths of East Africa, and are composed of bushy, evergreen trees and shrubs. . . In certain localities these are found to be extensively intermixed with a plant probably inaccurately described as the "White Mangrove." These trees grow thickly on the coasts at all points accessible to tidal influence, and propagate themselves with astonishing rapidity. . . . . In some places the trees are so thickly produced that it is well nigh impossible for a man to push his way through them. The wood of the red mangrove is hard and durable, much used for building purposes, and said to be impervious to the attacks of white ants and other destructive agencies.

"The quantities of mangrove bark exported from Mozambique, Parapat, Ibo, Porto Amelia (Pemba Bay) and Palma during the past year are reported as follows:—

	Tons.
From Mozambique (to end of October, 1904)	1,725
„ Parapat	1,080
„ Ibo	5,000 (about)
„ Porto Amelia	2,300
„ Palma	2,000
	12,105

"Of the exports from Mozambique, 1,655 tons went to Germany, 65 to British Possessions, and 5 to the United Kingdom. The whole of the shipments from Parapat found their way to Hamburg, whilst although considerable quantities are known to have been despatched both to the United States and to Russian ports on the Baltic from Ibo, Port Amelia, and Palma, the exact

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Mangrove Bark Industry of Mozambique.

figures in relation to the respective quantities are, unfortunately, not available. In addition to the quantities mentioned above, a large amount of mangrove bark was, at the end of 1904, lying in the various ports awaiting collection by the coasting steamers, and, it is understood, two sailing vessels have been chartered in Europe for its conveyance as the steamship facilities are both unreliable, and their connections with Europe going vessels uncertain.

"The method of stripping and collecting the bark in question is extremely simple, and continues throughout the year, being mainly dependent on the supply of labour of which there should be, and usually is, an abundance. Those trees which are found some little distance up the river, and whose trunks are daily wetted by the tides, are said to give the best proportion of the astringent alkaloid. It is said that if care be observed in the stripping, and the native collectors be instructed not to remove the bark too low down on the tree, the mangrove will re-bark in from four to six months, the quality of the second crop being in nowise inferior to that of the first. After removal from the tree, the bark is dried for periods varying from five to ten days, it is then pounded into convenient pieces, and sacked for export, each sack containing about 80 kilogrammes.

"The value of this export in the various European markets at the end of 1904 fluctuated between 4*l.* 10*s.* and 6*l.* 10*s.* per ton. The demand in Germany was said to be somewhat on the decline, but that in Russia and the United States continued firm. Freight to Hamburg costs about 32*s.* per ton, whilst cost of collection, drying, outlay for sacks obtained from India, as also the export duty of 2 per cent., may be reckoned as amounting in the aggregate to between 20*s.* and 30*s.* for the same quantity.

". . . . . It has been found that the method of transport hitherto adopted, namely, by means of sacks, is unsatisfactory by reason of the bulky character of the product, and there can be no doubt that if some means were devised whereby it should be compressed into bales, somewhat in the manner of patent horse bedding, such an expedient would result in a great saving of time, money, and space to the exporter and the shipper alike; freight would also be cheapened and several other difficulties done away with which at present are considered as very greatly retarding the development of this industry."

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TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

Duty on Catalogues and Advertising Matter.

The following statement appeared in the issue of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 1st December last as to the method of paying import duty on catalogues despatched to Australia by British firms, viz.:—

"The Federal authorities state that exporters may, if they so desire, weigh the catalogues in bulk before posting, assess the duty at 3*d.* per lb., and remit the amount involved to the Postmaster-General for transmission to the Department of Trade and Customs."

In amplification of the foregoing it may be noted that according to information received from the General Post Office the Australian Post Office has announced that the Customs duty leviable in Australia on circulars, price lists and other printed papers, may be paid by the senders directly to the Deputy Postmasters-General at Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide, Perth, Brisbane, or Hobart, as the case may be. The Federal authorities advise exporters to weigh the articles in bulk before posting, assess the duty thereon at 3*d.* per lb., and remit the amount in a letter stating for what reason they make the payment. The covers of the articles should be stamped with the name and address of the sender and a statement that the duty has been sent to the Deputy Postmaster-General concerned. This inscription may appear on the addressed side of the cover, provided it is confined to the left-hand half.

Free Importation of certain Articles for Vehicles.

A copy of a Bye-law, dated 14th January, 1905, has been received, notifying that the following "minor articles" for use in the manufacture of vehicles within the Commonwealth may be imported free of duty:—

MANUFACTURE OF VEHICLES.

Pole crabs.
Check loops.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Prohibition of the Exportation of the Straits Dollar.

With reference to the announcement published on p. 129 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 20th October, 1904, a copy of the "Straits Settlements Government Gazette" for 16th January, 1905, has been received, containing an Order-in-Council (No. 67 of 1905), issued under the "Coin Import and Export Ordinance, 1903," notifying that, on and after 16th January, 1905, the exportation of the coin known as the Straits dollar from the Colony to any place outside the Malay Peninsula, Netherlands East Indies, and Borneo is prohibited.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

GERMANY.

Date when New Customs Tariff comes into force.

The Board of Trade are informed by the Foreign Office that, according to a Decree published in the "Reichsanzeiger" for the 2nd March, the new German Customs Tariff is to come into force on the 1st March, 1906.

SPAIN.

Rate of Exchange for Adjustment of Customs Duties payable in Gold.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 1st March contains a Royal Order notifying that the average rate of exchange (premium of exchange on Paris) during the second fortnight of February was 31·35 per cent., and that the corresponding reduction in payments of Customs duties which have to be made in gold during the first fortnight of the present month is to be 24 per cent.

ITALY.

Forthcoming Tariff Alterations in consequence of New Treaty with Switzerland.

(The continuation of this notice is unavoidably postponed. It will be completed in next week's issue of the "Board of Trade Journal.")

JAPAN.

Revised charges for Customs Storage.

According to the "Japan Weekly Mail" for December 31st last, the Japanese Minister of Finance has revised the tariff of charges for the storage of goods by the Customs.* The new rates, which came into force on January 1st last, are as follows:—

1. Woven goods, sen 1½ to sen 4½ per cubic foot per 10 days.
2. Yarn and thread, sen 1½ to sen 11½.
3. Clothing and accessories, sen 1½ to sen 3.
4. Provisions, sen 1½.
5. Wines, spirits, &c., sen 1½.
6. Tobacco, cigars, cigarettes, sen 1½ to sen 4.
7. Sugar, &c., sen 1½.
8. Drugs and chemicals, sen 1½ to sen 18.
9. Dyes, colours and paints, sen 1½ to sen 4½.
10. Metal and metal manufactures: A, sen 1½ to sen 30; B, sen 1½ to sen 4½ per 100 kin per 10 days.
11. Watches, clocks, machines, scientific, &c., sen 1½ to sen 6.
12. Horn, ivory, leather, hides, &c., sen 1½ to sen 5½.
13. Glass and glass manufactures, sen 1½.
14. Oil and wax, sen 1½ to sen 4½.
15. Paper and stationery, sen 1½ to sen 19½.
16. Sundries, sen 1½ to sen 3.
17. Precious articles, 5 per cent. *ad valorem* per 10 days.
18. Hazardous goods, sen 4½ per cubic foot per 10 days.

*NOTE.—Article 46 of the Japanese Customs Law provides that if goods sent to the Customs for shipment, or to be landed, are not removed, shipped, despatched, or placed in a bonded warehouse, within 72 hours, the Customs may store them at the expense and risk of the person or persons concerned.

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SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

ARGENTINA.

Facility of Transfer of Vessels to Argentine Register.

According to a Decree published in the Argentine "Boletin Oficial" of 2nd January last, no guarantee, either personal or monetary, is henceforth required from Argentine navigation companies, or from ship owners domiciled in Argentina, who build vessels or acquire them abroad with a view to their inscription upon the national register of shipping.

MINERALS, METALS, AND MACHINERY.

NATAL.

Coal Output and Export in 1904.

According to preliminary figures published in the "Natal Government Gazette," the output of coal from Natal collieries during the year 1904 amounted to 858,298 tons, as compared with 713,548 tons in the preceding year. The export of colonial coal from Natal during the same periods was as follows:—

—	1903.	1904.
	Tons.	Tons.
Exported from Durban by sea	7,733	12,431
" overland to Orange River Colony and Transvaal.	15,769	99,514
Bunkered at Durban	274,735	383,147
Total	298,237	495,092

FRANCE.

Automobile Industry.

In a recent report, the United States Consul at Havre, says that the increased use of automobiles during the past few years has been so enormous that the manufacture of motor cars and their accessories has become one of the most important French industries. From a total of 1,850 automobiles in 1898, valued at 320,400*l.*, the output in 1904, according to the Chambre Syndicate de l'Automobile de France, has grown to 22,000 cars, of an estimated value of 6,800,000*l.*

The yearly output of automobiles from 1898 to 1904 was as follows:—

Year.	Number.	Value.
		£
1898	1,850	320 000
1899	1,900	367,000
1900	5,000	1,062,000
1901	8,800	2,046,000
1902	16,500	3,821,000
1903	19,500	5,250,000
1904 (estimated)	22,000	6,800,000

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Importation of British Creosote into Galveston.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul at Galveston (Mr. Nugent) forwarding the following particulars, extracted from the "Galveston News," regarding the importation of British creosote into that port.

The Sante Fé Railway Co. were so well pleased with their trial shipment of bulk creosote from England that, according to the published statement of their representative, they have decided to use that material regularly at the Somerville works, and will receive periodical shipments *viâ* Galveston. On the 29th December a shipload of 650,000 gallons of British creosote, valued at from 35,000 to 40,000 dollars, reached Galveston. The Sante Fé Railway Co. have begun to build two steel tanks at Galveston, for handling the creosote in bulk from steamers; each tank will have a capacity of 18,000 barrels, or a total capacity of over 1,500,000 gallons.

AGRICULTURE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Corn Prices.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 4th March, 1905, were as follow:—

Wheat	30*s.* 8*d.*
Barley	25*s.* 2*d.*
Oats	16*s.* 10*d.*

For further particulars see p. 474.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

A statement is published on p. 475, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 4th March, 1905, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1904.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Molascuit Industry.

According to the "Argosy" (Demerara) of 14th January, there can be no doubt that the manufacture of molascuit is making very satisfactory progress in British Guiana. The average price paid in England during the last six months of 1904 was 4*l.* per ton. In order to produce one ton of molascuit about 130 gallons of molasses, of a density of 44 deg. to 46 deg. Beaumé, are required, in addition to the megass meal, which is obtained by sifting the megass as it passes from the rollers, which have crushed the canes,

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Agriculture.

to the furnace. The average cost of manufacture, including packages, local freight, lighterage, and other incidental charges, is 4 dols. 50 c. per ton. To this must be added the cost of home freight, royalties, commission, &c., which averages about 7 dols. per ton. This leaves net proceeds to the manufacturer of 7 dols. 70 c. (1*l.* 12*s.*) per ton, equal to very nearly 6 c. per gallon for the molasses used.

There are at the present time 45 estates in British Guiana making sugar, but only a few of the larger estates are equipped with a plant for the manufacture of molascuit. It is a peculiar feature of this product that it can be made entirely by hand labour without the aid of machinery; but, whereas the average cost of hand manufacture is 10*s.* per ton, with a special plant of machinery the cost can be reduced to 60 c. per ton. Molascuit as made in the Colony consists of about 75 per cent. by weight of molasses and about 25 per cent. by weight of megass meal. The mixed product contains from 50 to 55 per cent. of sugar and about 13 per cent. of moisture.

BRITISH WEST INDIES.

Samples of Jamaica Tobacco on View.

With reference to the notice published on p. 463 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 8th December, 1904, regarding the tobacco industry of Jamaica, the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have now received from the Colonial Secretary of that Colony seven samples of different varieties of tobacco grown there, which are described as follows, viz.:—

1 hand Carpa from Temple Hall Estate,
1 „ Tripa „ „
1 „ Carpa from Colbeck Estate,
1 „ Tripa „ „
1 „ Carpa from Constant Spring Estate,
1 „ Tripa „ „

also some Sumatra tobacco grown at Hope Gardens.

These samples may be inspected at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

FRENCH WEST AFRICA.

Regulations for the Collection and Sale of Rubber.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul at Dakar (Captain C. F. Cromie) reporting that, consequent on the successful result of the measures taken in French Guinea for improving the quality of the rubber exported from that Colony, a long and careful enquiry has been made by order of

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Agriculture.

the Governor-General with the object of studying how far similar measures could be introduced throughout all the rubber-producing districts of French West Africa, so as to ensure a uniformly high quality of rubber being exported from all the territories comprised in the Government-General.

In the course of this enquiry the Colonial and French Chambers of Commerce, and all the principal business houses interested in this product, were consulted. In addition, the Inspector of Agriculture was sent to Antwerp, Liverpool, Paris, Bordeaux, and Havre, to study on the spot the conditions of those markets.

As a result of the enquiry, an Ordinance for regulating the collection, culture, and sale of rubber in French West Africa was signed by the Governor-General on the 1st February.

A translation of this Ordinance may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—CALIFORNIA.

Output of Dried Fruits.

The output of dried fruits in California for the year 1904, as estimated by the "San Francisco Trade Journal," and compared with the output in the years 1902 and 1903, is shown in the following table :—

Fruits.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.
Peaches	50,420,000	32,150,000	22,500,000
Apricots	37,525,000	21,000,000	15,000,000
Apples	9,750,000	3,600,000	2,200,000
Pears...	5,250,000	4,650,000	3,500,000
Plums	2,560,000	2,870,000	2,300,000
Nectarines	910,000	635,000	420,000
Dried grapes	375,000	410,000	340,000
Figs	7,250,000	6,000,000	5,000,000

Raisin and Prune Output.

The same "Journal" estimates the California raisin crop for 1904 as 75,000,000 pounds, against 120,000,000 pounds in 1903, and 108,750,000 pounds in 1902. It also estimates the prune output of California for 1904 as 97,000,000 pounds, against 165,000,000 pounds in 1903, and 197,000,000 pounds in 1902.

Canned Fruit Pack.

As regards canned fruit, the "Journal" estimates the pack for the year as 2,800,000 cases. The figures for 1903 are given as 2,730,000 cases, and for 1902 as 2,252,000 cases.

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Agriculture.

ECUADOR.

Bounty for Rubber Trees.

According to the "Monthly Bulletin of the International Bureau of the American Republics," the President of the Republic of Ecuador promulgated an important Decree on 30th September, 1904, the text of which is as follows:—

"The Congress of the Republic of Ecuador decrees:

"Article 1.—Legislative decree approved on 17th October, 1902, authorising the President to regulate the prohibition concerning the extraction of rubber from the Government forests situated in the western part of the Republic, is hereby amended so that the second article thereof shall read as follows:

"'The President shall pay from the public treasury a bounty of 10 cents for each rubber tree planted in any part of the territory of the Republic, provided the number of trees planted be not less than 500, and that these attain the age of five years.'

"Article 2.—The President shall regulate the form and manner of making the plantations."

MISCELLANEOUS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Cotton Statistics.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 2nd March, 1905, was 50,031 (including 77 bales British West African and 107 bales British West Indian), and the number imported during the 9 weeks ended the 2nd March was 924,669 (including 596 bales British West African and 244 bales British West Indian). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 2nd March, 1905, 15,500 bales, and for the 9 weeks, 108,866.

For further details see p. 474.

A return showing the number of bales of cotton imported and exported, forwarded from ports to Inland towns, and returned to ports during the month and two months ended 28th February last, will be found on p. 473.

Emigration.

The number of emigrants that left the United Kingdom during the month of February, 1905, was 25,373, as compared with 17,279 during the same month of 1904.

For further details see p. 478.

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Miscellaneous.

UNITED KINGDOM—*continued.*

Bankruptcy Statistics.

The total number of receiving orders gazetted in England and Wales during the month of February last was 398, as compared with 390 during February, 1904.

For detailed particulars see pp. 476-7.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

Pearl-Shell and Beche-de-Mer Fisheries in 1903.

The following particulars of the pearl-shell and beche-de-mer fisheries of the Northern coast and islands of Queensland are taken from a report of the Queensland Marine Department, summarised in the "Queenslander" of 14th January:—

The take of shell for the year 1903 was practically the same as the previous year, although a greater number of boats were licensed. The yield not being larger may, perhaps, be attributed to the prevalence of very bad weather during the first eight months of the year, which would to some extent militate against their successful working; during the last four months, however, the weather conditions were more favourable, and the boats did fairly well. It is stated that on the whole good prices were realised for the shell, but values have fallen considerably since 1902, when the record was established.

Statistics appended to the report show that during 1903 there were 301 boats engaged as against 276 in 1902, 331 in 1901, and 341 in 1900. The total take of shell for the year was 908 tons, as compared with 910 tons in 1902, 867 tons in 1901, and 1,060 tons in 1900. The total take of shell from 1890 to 1903 inclusive, it appears, was 13,997 tons. The average take per boat for 1903 was 3 tons 0 cwt. 1 qr. In 1902 the average take was 3 tons 5 cwt. 3 qrs.; in 1901 it was 2 tons 15 cwt. 3 qrs.; and in 1900 it was 3 tons 2 cwt. 1 qr. The average take for 1903 is the second lowest of any year. In that year only 92 boats were engaged.

The quantity of **pearl-shell** exported from Thursday Island for 1903 was 908 tons of live shell, valued at 162,547*l.*, a decrease of 1 ton 14 cwt. on the return for 1902, which was valued at 126,831*l.* The quantity of black-lip shell exported in 1903 was 27 tons 7 cwt. 2 qrs., valued at 1,539*l.*, being a decrease of 3 cwt. 2 qrs. on the amount for 1902, which was valued at 1,758*l.* The quantity of dead shell for 1903 was 34 tons 18 cwt. 2 qrs., valued at 1,465*l.*, an increase of 10 tons 14 cwt. 2 qrs. upon the returns of 1902, which were valued at 678*l.* The **beche-de-mer** export of 1903 was 58 tons 16 cwt., valued at 7,270*l.*, a decrease of 11 tons 14 cwt. 2 qrs. compared with 1902, when the value of the export was 9,444*l.* The export of **tortoiseshell** for 1903 was 2,801 lb., valued at 1,326*l.*, a decrease of 807 lb. compared with 1902, when the export was valued at 1,521*l.*

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Miscellaneous.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS AND FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

Adoption of Standard for Local Time.

Adverting to the notification published in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 18th October, 1900, p. 153, it is to be observed that the "Straits Settlements Government Gazette" of 6th January, contains a notice to the effect that from the 1st June, 1905, the colony of the Straits Settlements and the Federated States in the Malay Peninsula will adopt the mean time of the 105th meridian which is exactly 7 hours ahead of Greenwich.

Exports in 1904.

The following table, showing the quantities of the principal articles of produce exported from Singapore and Penang to the United Kingdom, the United States of America, and the Continent of Europe during the year 1904, with total figures for the preceding year, has been compiled from statistics furnished by the Registrar of Imports and Exports at Singapore (Mr. A. Stuart):—

Principal Articles of Export.	1904.				*Total in 1903.*
	United Kingdom.	United States of America.	Continent of Europe.	Total.	
Tin ... ... Pikuls	527,000	299,000	141,000	967,000	*876,000*
Tapioca (flake, pearl and flour) „	446,000	156,000	191,000	793,000	*879,000*
Copra ... ... „	—	—	712,000	712,000	*891,000*
Sago flour ... „	328,000	52,000	276,000	656,000	*692,000*
Gambier... ... „	192,000	221,000	127,000	540,000	*559,000*
Pepper (black and white) ... „	67,000	84,000	145,000	296,000	*214,000*
Rattans ... ... „	22,000	83,000	169,000	275,000	*368,000*
Gutta jeluting or East India gum „	15,000	133,000	25,000	173,000	*130,000*
Sugar ... ... „	111,000	—	1,000	112,000	*110,000*
Gum copal ... „	26,000	34,000	51,000	111,000	*109,000*
Preserved pine-apples... ... Cases	307,000	58,000	38,000	403,000	*432,000*

NOTE.—16·8 pikuls = 1 ton.

NORWAY.

Bad Prospect for Timber and Wood Pulp Trade.

A despatch has been received from H.M. Minister at Stockholm (Sir Rennell Rodd, K.C.M.G.) reporting that there is every probability of there being a considerable shortage in the supply of Norwegian timber and wood pulp during the current year. Up to the present time there has been scarcely any snow in Norway, and snow is an essential element for the

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Miscellaneous.

transport of timber by sleigh to routes of communication. Consequently a great deal of timber has had to remain where it was felled, and the season is too far advanced for there to be much prospect of its now being conveyed to the markets.

The weather throughout last summer and autumn was also exceptionally dry, and there is great fear that the necessary water to drive the saw mills will fail during the present year. Even if rain were to fall now in abundance, the frozen condition of the soil in the mountains would prevent its absorption and retention. The outlook therefore for the timber, pulp, and wood fibre trade, is far from reassuring.

FRANCE—SENEGAL.

Brest-Dakar Cable.

Referring to the notice on p. 376 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 23rd February, H.M. Consul at Dakar (Captain C. F. Cromie) reports, under date of 17th February, that the Brest-Dakar cable has been landed at Yof Bay, but that as it has been found necessary to lay a new land line from that point to Dakar, at least two months must elapse before the cable can be inaugurated.

AUSTRIA—HUNGARY.

Issue of New Ten Kronen Notes.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Ambassador at Vienna (Sir F. R. Plunkett, G.C.B.) reporting that an issue of new ten kronen notes was to commence on the 25th February.

The new notes are to bear the date of 2nd January, 1904. The ten kronen notes hitherto in circulation bearing the date 31st March, 1900, are to be called in.

In this connection the Austro-Hungarian Bank has published a notice to the effect that the new notes will be issued proportionally as the ten kronen notes of 31st March, 1900, as well as the five gulden notes dated 1st January, 1881, and the fifty gulden notes dated 1st January, 1884, still in circulation, are presented at the Main and Branch Offices of the Austro-Hungarian Bank for cancellation.

The ten kronen notes dated 31st March, 1900, now in circulation must be presented at the Main or Branch Offices of the Austro-Hungarian Bank for payment or exchange up to 28th February, 1907, after which date they will only be received in exchange for the new notes.

After 28th February, 1913, the Austro-Hungarian Bank will no longer be obliged to accept or change the ten kronen notes dated 31st March, 1900.

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Miscellaneous.

AUSTRIA—HUNGARY—*continued.*

Regulations as to Calcium Carbide and Acetylene.

The "Reichsgesetzblatt" of 24th February contains regulations drawn up by the Austrian Ministries of the Interior, Commerce, Railways and Agriculture, regarding the production and use of acetylene, as well as the storage and transit of calcium carbide.

These regulations can be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

MONTENEGRO.

Foreign Trade.

The following particulars of the foreign trade of Montenegro are taken from the "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels):—

Austria, thanks to its proximity, formerly monopolised the imports into Montenegro, but during the last five years this country has met with competitors in the market. Imports from Italy have assumed considerable proportions, more especially untanned leather, silk stuffs, rice, honey, petroleum, wines, spirits, and various kinds of manufactured goods. A company which has recently been formed at Milan to develop trade with Montenegro and Albania, has proved very successful. Applications have been made by Italian subjects for concessions for constructing a railway, working iron ore deposits, creating a port at Antivari, and erecting an establishment for preserving meat and fish.

It is very difficult to draw up exact statistics of Montenegrin imports and exports; the imports for 1902 are estimated as follow:—Austria-Hungary, 70,000*l.*, Italy, 50,000*l.*, and the United Kingdom, 20,000*l.* The principal imports consist of iron and other metals, manufactured goods, leather, soap, candles, sugar and glassware.

PERU.

Denatured Alcohol Regulations Modified.

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 40 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 5th January, a despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Minister at Lima (Mr. W. Beauclerk) transmitting copy and translation of a further decree, dated 5th January, modifying the regulations concerning denatured alcohol.

By this decree it is provided that in the measurement of alcohols destined to be denatured an allowance shall be made of three centesimal degrees of the Gay-Lussac alcoholometer.

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Miscellaneous.

ARGENTINA.

Exports in 1904.

The following table, based on figures published in the "Review of the River Plate" for the 6th January, shows the destination of the principal exports from Argentina during the year 1904, the total figures of each principal export to all parts for 1903 being added for purposes of comparison :—

Articles.	To United Kingdom.	To United States.	To France	To Germany.	To Italy.	To Other Countries.	Total in 1904.	Corresponding Figures in 1903.
Dry Ox Hides.. No.	20,976	1,067,342	31,670	221,668	461,698	322,951	2,126,305	*2,599,190*
Salt Ox Hides.. „	42,006	97,085	124,057	814,041	15,631	268,206	1,361,028	*1,243,700*
Dry Horse Hides „	—	25,232	104	69,953	—	—	95,289	*144,500*
Salt Horse Hides „	—	47,065	—	86,713	—	—	133,778	*165,287*
Sheep Skins ... Bales	10,130	1,077	51,452	5,166	5,423	3,032	76,280	*92,240*
Hair ... ... „	145	1,915	225	868	594	850	4,597	*4,425*
Tallow ... Pipes	5,750	—	914	389	12,380	11,851	31,284	*21,978*
Tallow ... Casks	37,332	—	913	7,303	1,945	17,004	64,397	*80,898*
Tallow ... Hhds.	13,088	—	5,288	872	3,224	10,473	32,945	*22,452*
Goat Skins ... Bales	—	3,779	3,479	39	56	33	7,386	*3,735*
Wool ... ... „	19,815	30,727	183,258	121,959	3,729	37,440	396,928	*471,954*
Frozen Wethers No.	2,898,456	—	—	—	—	775,322	3,673,778	*3,381,600*
Wheat ... ... Tons	330,623	—	10,307	155,695	3,050	1,905,442	2,405,117	*1,688,680*
Maize ... ... „	371,445	—	147,528	239,755	91,822	1,678,030	2,527,983	*2,160,730*
Linseed ... „	109,227	3,907	61,934	138,935	3,329	593,156	910,488	*615,038*
Flour ... ... „	12,058	—	—	445	35	80,532	93,070	*66,344*
Bran ... ... „	12,197	—	5,555	97,144	4	30,013	144,913	*126,415*
Pollards ... Bags	139,331	—	116,824	9,412	—	19,626	282,193	*387,795*
Oilseed .. .. „	45,438	—	2,582	93,301	—	6,036	147,357	*163,490*
Beef ... ... Qrs.	1,016,468	—	—	—	—	193,530	1,209,998	*996,023*
Hay ... ... Bales	9,891	—	1,460	4,502	—	821,447	837,300	*1,153,644*
Quebracho ... Tons	6,625	35,632	12,975	114,565	28,539	91,303	289,839	*194,844*
Tobacco ... Bales	300	—	5,224	16,872	—	6,315	28,711	*19,839*
Butter ... ... Cases	156,228	—	—	8	—	48,794	205,025	*215,377*
Sugar ... ... Tons	—	3,239	—	9,683	—	13,923	26,845	*20,924*

Average weights :—One bale of wool, 400 kilos.; One bale of sheepskins, 400 kilos.; One bale of hair, 400 kilos.; One bale of goatskins, 370 kilos.; One bale of hay, 50 kilos.; One pipe of tallow, 400 kilos; One hogshead of tallow, 200 kilos.; One cask of tallow, 160 kilos.; One case of butter, 25 kilos.

CHINA.

Proposed New Regulations of Trade on the West River.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Minister at Pekin (Sir E. Satow, G.C.M.G.), forwarding a draft of the proposed new regulations of trade on the West River. The draft may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.—February, 1905.

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported, Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns, and Returned to Ports during the Month and Two Months ended 28th February, 1905, compared with the corresponding Period of the Year 1904.

	Month of February.		Two Months ended 28th February.	
	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*
	Imports.			
American	261,148	*223,637*	683,748	*581,464*
Brazilian	8,201	*16,119*	9,172	*29,530*
East Indian	5,622	*16,760*	13,385	*26,443*
Egyptian	88,370	*53,743*	92,496	*115,381*
Miscellaneous	8,777*	*3,751*	16,477	*6,816*
Total	312,118	*314,010*	815,278	*759,634*
	Exports.			
American	22,853	*43,250*	66,496	*88,566*
Brazilian	—	*650*	328	*2,352*
East Indian	2,149	*3,583*	8,812	*8,072*
Egyptian	11,053	*9,117*	21,821	*24,254*
Miscellaneous	216†	*633*	450	*1,210*
Total	35,771	*57,238*	92,907	*124,454*
	Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns.			
American	265,881	*193,469*	544,751	*395,029*
Brazilian	1,472	*8,528*	4,556	*14,132*
East Indian	2,276	*7,394*	7,408	*11,534*
Egyptian	31,596	*32,023*	64,181	*73,390*
Miscellaneous	3,441	*4,007*	5,956	*9,507*
Total	304,666	*245,421*	626,847	*503,592*
	Forwarded from Inland Towns to Ports.			
American	197	*888*	546	*1,077*
Brazilian	—	—	—	—
East Indian	—	—	—	—
Egyptian	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	—	—	—	—
Total	197	*888*	546	*1,077*

* Including 87 bales British West African and 186 bales British West Indian.
† Including 16 bales British West African.

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Cotton Returns—*continued.*

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the Week and 9 Weeks ended 2nd March, 1905.

—	Week ended 2nd Mar., 1905.	9 Weeks ended 2nd Mar., 1905.	Week ended 2nd Mar., 1905.	9 Weeks ended 2nd Mar., 1905.
	Imports. (Bales.)		Exports. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American	30,508	772,499†	10,363	78,425
Brazilian	2,308	9,172	—	328
East Indian	2,629	13,937	575	4,102
Egyptian	12,945	111,453	4,484	25,486
Miscellaneous	1,641*	17,608‡	78	525
Total	50,031	924,669	15,500	108,866

* Including 77 bales British West African and 107 bales British West Indian.
† Corrected figures.
‡ Including 596 bales British West African and 244 bales British West Indian.

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 4th March, 1905, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

—	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 4th March, 1905	30	8	25	2	16	10
Corresponding week in—						
1898	35	8	27	10	17	9
1899	25	10	26	7	16	11
1900	25	11	24	8	16	11
1901	25	9	25	4	17	7
1902	27	0	26	8	20	5
1903	25	3	23	1	17	1
1904	28	8	22	6	16	5

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

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Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 4th March, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

—		Week ended 4th Mar., 1905.	*Corresponding Week in 1904.*
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number.	8,259	*9,200*
Sheep and lambs	"	2,584	*9,766*
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	821	*435*
Fresh Meat :—			
Beef	Cwts.	123,741	*68,491*
Mutton	"	101,899	*24,102*
Pork	"	11,082	*16,468*
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Cwts.	88,400	*101,854*
Beef	"	2,186	*4,053*
Hams	"	15,852	*21,542*
Pork	"	4,843	*4,035*
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ...	"	15,493	*11,261*
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting...	"	10,708	*13,984*
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwts.	95,314	*64,374*
Margarine	"	23,501	*16,965*
Cheese	"	25,075	*30,507*
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	*106*
" cream	"	114	*76*
" condensed	"	17,266	*18,742*
" preserved, other kinds...	"	92	*358*
Eggs	Grt. Hundr.	381,813	*407,737*
Poultry	Value £	25,106	*30,305*
Game	"	1,356	*4,276*
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	Cwts.	3,668	*2,393*
Lard	"	40,988	*39,150*
Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—			
Wheat	Cwts.	2,113,900	*1,790,300*
Wheat meal and flour	"	283,200	*269,650*
Barley	"	416,000	*504,300*
Oats	"	347,500	*459,600*
Peas	"	42,790	*52,780*
Beans	"	22,380	*57,510*
Maize or Indian corn	"	766,100	*821,300*
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Cwts.	32,063	*103,767*
Apricots and peaches	"	57	*109*
Bananas	Bunches.	97,493	*57,776*
Cherries	Cwts.	—	—
Currants...	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	—	—
Grapes	"	255	*116*
Lemons	"	9,586	*5,896*
Oranges	"	185,752	*170,353*
Pears	"	147	*506*
Plums	"	42	*237*
Strawberries	"	—	—
Unenumerated	"	928	*229*
Hay...	Tons.	2,223	*2,865*
Straw	"	1,572	*3,440*
Moss Litter*	"	1,807	—
Hops	Cwts.	926	*2,837*
Locust Beans	"	22,220	*19,080*
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels.	41,647	*166,764*
Potatoes	Cwts.	19,125	*219,137*
Tomatoes	"	21,828	*12,867*
Unenumerated	Value £	7,057	*8,821*
Vegetables, dried	Cwts.	1,563	*4,378*
Preserved by canning...	"	5,934	*3,598*

* Not shown in 1904.

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Bankruptcy.—England and Wales.

Number of Receiving Orders Gazetted in the under-mentioned Periods and in the under-mentioned Principal Trades and Occupations.

	February.		Two Months ended February.	
	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*
Total gazetted...	No. 393	*No. 390*	No. 825	*No. 754*
Number gazetted in principal trades and occupations :—				
Publicans and hotel keepers, &c.	28	*22*	55	*37*
Farmers	27	*18*	52	*31*
Builders	22	*28*	50	*60*
Grocers, &c....	21	*21*	50	*44*
Bakers	12	*8*	33	*30*
Greengrocers, fruiterers, &c.	11	*13*	23	*24*
Decorators, painters, plumbers, &c.	9	*8*	20	*15*
Agents, commission and general	10	*4*	20	*11*
Drapers, haberdashers, &c.	9	*8*	19	*18*
Tailors, &c.	7	*5*	16	*17*
Boot and shoe manufacturers and dealers ...	8	*7*	14	*13*
Coal and coke merchants and dealers	9	*8*	13	*14*
Fishmongers, poulterers, &c.	7	*7*	13	*13*
Auctioneers	8	*2*	12	*4*
Butchers	4	*11*	9	*22*
Confectioners	4	*5*	9	*8*
Cab, omnibus and fly proprietors	5	*3*	9	*3*
Hairdressers...	3	*2*	9	*2*
Clerks, commercial and general	2	*7*	8	*13*
Carriers, carmen, lightermen, and hauliers ...	6	*3*	8	*8*
Tobacconists, &c.	4	*3*	8	*5*
Corn, flour, seed, hay, and straw merchants and dealers	3	*0*	7	*12*
Bicycle, &c., manufacturers and dealers ..	1	*1*	7	*5*
Carpenters and joiners	5	*5*	7	*6*
Travellers, commercial	3	*3*	7	*4*
Solicitors	4	*2*	7	*4*
Milliners, dressmakers, &c.	3	*3*	7	*5*
Provision merchants, &c.	3	*2*	7	*2*

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Bankruptcy.—England and Wales—*continued.*

	February.		Two Months ended February.	
	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*
	No.	*No.*	No.	*No.*
Number gazetted in principal trades and occupations—*continued:*				
Jewellers, watchmakers, silversmiths, &c. ...	4	*5*	6	*9*
Furniture dealers and makers	3	*5*	6	*9*
General dealers	2	*4*	6	*8*
Gardeners, florists, &c.	3	*6*	6	*11*
Restaurant, coffee and eating-house keepers ...	5	*1*	6	*3*
Directors and promoters of public companies ...	4	*2*	6	*5*
Clothiers, outfitters, &c.	3	*2*	6	*4*
Schoolmasters and schoolmistresses	2	*3*	6	*5*
Engineers and founders, &c.	3	*3*	5	*4*
Cabinet makers and upholsterers	—	—	5	*3*
China, glass, and earthenware, &c., dealers ..	1	*1*	5	*2*
Timber merchants and wood dealers	4	*2*	5	*3*
Wheelwrights	1	*1*	5	*2*
Curriers, tanners, and leather merchants ..	—	*1*	5	*2*
Printers, booksellers, and publishers	2	*3*	4	*12*
Ironmongers	1	*4*	4	*4*
Contractors	2	*2*	4	*4*
Lodging-house keepers	2	*3*	4	*7*
Merchants, general	3	*2*	4	*5*
Cattle and pig dealers	1	*4*	4	*6*
Doctors of medicine, physicians, &c.	1	*3*	4	*5*
Woollen merchants and manufacturers... ...	2	*1*	4	*2*
Blacksmiths, farriers, &c.	1	*4*	3	*6*
Chemists, druggists and chemical manufacturers	2	*2*	3	*3*
Stone, marble and monumental masons, &c. ...	3	*2*	3	*3*
Stationers	2	—	3	*2*
Brokers, stock and share	3	*3*	3	*3*
Saddlers and harness makers	1	*1*	2	*3*
Dairymen, cowkeepers, &c.	1	*4*	2	*5*
Carriage, &c., builders	2	*1*	2	*2*
Architects and surveyors	—	*3*	2	*3*
Officers in Army	2	*3*	2	*4*
Fishing smack owners, and masters	1	—	2	*2*
Millers	—	*1*	1	*4*
Hosiers, glovers, &c.	—	*2*	1	*2*
Cotton spinners and manufacturers	1	—	1	*1*
Wine and spirit merchants, &c.	—	*1*	—	*2*

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Emigration.—February, 1905.

Return of the **Numbers, Nationalities,** and **Destinations*** of the **Passengers** that left the **United Kingdom** for **Places** out of **Europe** during the Month ending 28th February, 1905, and the Two Months ending 28th February, 1905, compared with the corresponding periods of the previous Year.

Nationality.	British Empire.						Foreign Countries.			Grand Total.	Total for corresponding Period of 1904.
	British North America.	Australia and New Zealand.	British South Africa.	India, including Ceylon.	Other British Colonies and Possessions.	Total.	United States.	Other Foreign Countries.	Total.		
	Month of February.										
English	2,681	771	1,433	231	455	5,571	3,332	490	3,822	9,393	[illegible]
Scotch	127	84	276	19	30	536	814	54	868	1,404	1,[illegible]
Irish	100	24	68	1	3	196	1,164	16	1,180	1,376	[illegible]
Total of British origin.	2,908	879	1,777	251	488	6,303	5,310	560	5,870	12,173	[illegible]
Foreigners	924	11	340	12	18	1,305	10,803	462	11,265	12,570	[illegible]
Nationalities not distinguished	2	—	—	125	148	275	99	256	355	630	[illegible]
Total	3,834	890	2,117	388	654	7,883	16,212	1,278	17,490	25,373	17,[illegible]
Total for corresponding period, 1904 ...	*3,121*	*860*	*2,169*	*425*	*581*	*7,156*	*9,260*	*863*	*10,123*	*17,279*	
	Two Months ended February.										
English	4,576	1,630	2,893	554	801	10,454	6,089	920	7,009	17,463	1[illegible]
Scotch	248	187	579	46	43	1,103	1,329	110	1,439	2,542	[illegible]
Irish	190	75	154	1	4	424	1,939	27	1,966	2,390	[illegible]
Total of British origin.	5,014	1,892	3,626	601	848	11,981	9,357	1,057	10,414	22,395	[illegible]
Foreigners	1,565	34	689	29	42	2,359	21,107	1,005	22,112	24,471	[illegible]
Nationalities not distinguished	6	—	—	318	292	616	178	467	645	1,261	[illegible]
Total	6,585	1,926	4,315	948	1,182	14,956	30,642	2,529	33,171	48,127	[illegible]
Total for corresponding period, 1903 ...	*5,141*	*1,855*	*5,359*	*1,007*	*1,321*	*14,683*	*16,766*	*1,782*	*18,548*	*33,231*	

* The destinations given are, in all cases, based on the ports at which the passengers contracted to land.

NOTE.—The above figures being made up at the earliest possible date after the close of each month, are subject to correction in the Annual Returns.

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GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of February, 1905, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance of 1*s.* 1*d.* per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1903, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s.* 1*d.* for the first, and 5*s.* for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1899–1903, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The Board of Trade "Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade on the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the February issue:—State of the Labour Market in January; Employment in 1904; Trade Disputes in 1904; Wholesale Prices in 1904; Relief of the Unemployed.

FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in Consular Reports of the **Annual Series** issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

ANNUAL.

No. 3,326. Trade of Consular District of Baltimore for 1904.

Effect on year's commerce of fire in February last; banking business, the grain trade, and the general commerce of the port have been unsatisfactory.

Table showing rates of wages paid to men in various trades.

Large development of manufacture of ready-made clothing.

Remarks on other industries: boots and shoes, straw hats, tobacco, coal and lumber.

Statistical tables of exports, imports, shipping, and average grain and flour prices.

This publication also contains reports from Norfolk and Newport News.

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Government Publications.

No. 3,327. Shipping and Navigation of the Port of Antwerp for 1904.

Considerable progress has again been made in trade at this port.

Causes of this prosperity.

Great development of the shipbuilding industry.

Detailed description of the docks and basins.

Yearly statistics of shipping since 1895.

List of regular s.s. lines trading to the port.

Details of port, pilots' and dry dock charges.

Coloured map of the port.

LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

THE following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since 1st January, 1905, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

No.	Place.	Price
	EUROPE—	
	Belgium:	
3327	Antwerp—Shipping ...1904	7½*d.*
3325	Belgium—Finances 1904–05	1*d.*
	Denmark:	
3324	Denmark (Supplementary) 1903	½*d.*
	German Empire and Colonies:	
624	*Memorandum on German Cement*	½*d.*
	Italy:	
3320	Italy 1903	1½*d.*
3323	South Italy 1904	1½*d.*
	Russia:	
628	*Cultivation of Tea in the Caucasus*	½*d.*
	AFRICA—	
3321	Somaliland Protectorate... ... 1903–04	3*d.*
3322	Tangier and District ...	1½*d.*
	AMERICA, NORTH—	
	United States of America:	
3326	Baltimore 1904	1½*d.*
625	*Rice Industry in the United States*	2*d.*
626	*Iron and Steel Exhibits at the St. Louis Exhibition* ...	2½*d.*
627	*United States Railways* ...	2½*d.*

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Government Publications.

Treaty Series.

The following numbers of the Treaty Series issued since the 1st January, 1905, may be obtained from the above-mentioned source:—

No.	———	Price.
	EUROPE— **France:**	
3	Agreements between the United Kingdom and France referring to Arbitration the question of the Grant of the French flag to Muscat Dhows...	½*d.*
	Russia:	
2	Agreement between the United Kingdom and Russia respecting Joint Stock Companies and other commercial, industrial, and financial associations	½*d.*
	AMERICA, NORTH— **Mexico:**	
4	Convention between the United Kingdom and Mexico respecting Postal Rates upon letters passing between New Zealand and Mexico	½*d.*
	WEST INDIES— **Cuba:**	
1	Accession of Cuba to arrangements respecting false indications of origin on goods and the International Registration of Trade Marks	½*d.*

COLONIAL OFFICE REPORTS.

The following Reports relating to H.M. Colonial Possessions issued since 1st January, 1905, may be purchased from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.:—

Annual.

No.	Place.	Price.
—	Cyprus	2½*d.*
444	Basutoland...	3*d.*

Miscellaneous.

No.	Place.	Price.
29	Ceylon. Reports on the results of the Mineral Survey in 1903–4	2½*d.*

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THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH

OF THE

BOARD OF TRADE.

The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade was established in 1899, in consequence of a report by a Departmental Committee, with a view to meet the constantly increasing demand for prompt and accurate information on commercial matters in the interests of British trade, so far as it can be met by Government action. It is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference. In addition, it is the duty of the Branch, as far as the interests of British Trade permit, to afford information in reply to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

The office is housed at No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., and (subject to the Comptroller-General of the Commercial, Statistical, and Labour Departments of the Board of Trade) is under the direction of Mr. T. Worthington. The Intelligence Branch endeavours, on application being made to it either personally or by letter, to supply information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender; Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c.

In consequence of the transfer of the Imperial Institute to the Board of Trade from the beginning of 1903, the work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Offices of the Imperial Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch is also in communication with the Imperial Institute at South Kensington, of which Professor Wyndham Dunstan, F.R.S., has been appointed director by the Board of Trade. Among the branches of work in charge of Professor Dunstan are the scientific investigation of the economic products of the British Empire with a view to their commercial utilisation, and the superintendence of the arrangement and classification of the Collection of these products which are exhibited at the Institute. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room at 73, Basinghall Street.

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch and intended for general information is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is now issued weekly at the price of 1*d*. Supplements to the "Board of Trade Journal" are issued quarterly, under the title of the "Imperial Institute Bulletin," containing information and reports bearing on the work carried out in the Imperial Institute at South Kensington.

COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT, BOARD OF TRADE.

January, 1905.

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

To Merchants, Manufacturers, and Shippers whose Advertisements appear in the "Board of Trade Journal."

(*Where no folio is given, Advertisement does not appear in this issue.*)

PAGE

Absorbent Blottings—
Tullis, R., & Co., Markinch, Fife 1

Adamantine Clinker (Regd.)—
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...

Admiralty Charts—
Potter, J. D., 145, Minories..

Agents (Colonial & Foreign)—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Agricultural Seeds—
Cooper, Taber & Co., 90 & 92, Southwark Street, S.E. ... 24
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ... 20

Air Compressors—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

Ale, Beer, and Stout Merchants—
Daukes & Co., Strand, London 6

Alkali Manufacturers—
Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire ... ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Alloys—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

PAGE

Ammonia, Anhydrous, & Liquid—
Brotherton & Co., Leeds (Carbonate of Ammonia, Muriate of Ammonia, &c.)

Ammonia (Anhydrous), Valves for—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Ammunition Manufacturers—
King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham ... ...
Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Antifouling Composition for Ships—
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Anti-friction Metal—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Antimony Paint—
Parker & Lester, London, S.E.

Antiquities in Sundials—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Artists' Colours—
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

PAGE

Athletic Goods Manufacturers—
Quaife Bros. & Lilley, 313, Broad Street, Birmingham

Bags and Sacks—
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool ... ...

Baths, Porcelain, Enamelled (Cast Iron)—
Clark, T. & C., & Co., Wolverhampton. ... ...

Bedding—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., South Place, Finsbury, E.C. ...

Bedsteads (Iron and Brass)—
Bott, J. T., Ltd., Glover Street, Birmingham... ...
Evered & Co., London and Birmingham ... ...
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Bordesley, Birmingham, and South Place, Finsbury, E.C.
Hoyland, John, Ltd., Birmingham and London. ...

Bellows—
Brison, E., & Co., Bristol ...

Bevelled and Bent Glass—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham 26

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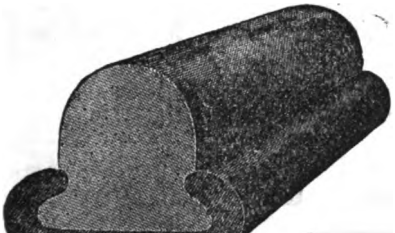

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Billiard Table Manufacturers—
Cox & Yeman, London, S.W.
Edwards, George, London, N.E. ... ...

Binoxide of Barium—
Bessler, Waechter & Co., 18 & 19, Fenchurch Street, E.C.
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle ... ...

Bird Seeds and Foods—
Hyde, R., & Co., London, S.E.

Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, J., & Son, 58, City Road, E.C.... ... ...

Biscuit Manufacturers—
Hubbard, Walter, Partick, Glasgow. Export Agent—J. S. Morrison, Son & Jones, Peninsular Buildings, London, E.C. ... ...

Blankets—Cotton—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester. C

Bleaching Powder—
Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Blue Manufacturers—
Edge, Wm., & Sons, Ltd., Bolton... 21

PAGE

Boiler Incrustation (Prevention and Removal of)—
The Boilerine Manufacturing Co., Old Kent Road, S.E...
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Boiler Makers—
Butterley Co. (The), Ltd., Derby ... ...
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Garrett, R., & Son, Ltd., Leiston, R.S.O. ... ...
Hartley & Sugden, Ltd., Halifax ... ...
Marriott & Graham, Govan, N.B. ... ...

Boiler Makers and Heating Engineers—
Riley, J. Ashton, Ltd., Manchester Road, Huddersfield

Boiler Tubes—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ... ...

Bolts, Nuts and Screws—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 25
Periam, Herb. W., Birmingham (Screws, Rivets, Washers, Nails (Roofing))

Bone Mill Manufacturers—
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable

PAGE

Boots and Shoes—
Lewis, C. & E., Northampton

Bottled Fruits—
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...

Brass Finishers—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury

Brassfounders—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Brass Plate Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn ... ...

Brass Scrap Merchants—
Adams, John, & Sons, Newcastle-on-Tyne ... ...

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Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Enamelled and Glazed Bricks, Glazed Wall Tiles)
Pearson, E.J. & J., Stourbridge
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

onze Manufacturers— PAGE

Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

ush Manufacturers—

Brison, E., & Co., Bristol ...
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...

lbs—

Cooper, Taber & Co., Ltd., London 24

nting Manufacturers—

Riley, E., & Co., Providence Street Mills, Leeds ... ...

tton Manufacturers—

Smith & Wright, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

bles and Wires—

Connolly Bros., Ltd., Blackley, Manchester ... ...
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Telegraph Manufact'ng Co., Ltd., The, Helsby, Warrington ... ...

Candle Manufacturers— PAGE

Ogston & Tennant, Ltd., Aberdeen ... ...
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Carbolic Acid—

Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Carbonic Acid Gas Valves—

Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Carboys—

Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks ... ...

Carpets and Rugs—

Barton, J. E., & Sons, Kidderminster 2

Carriage Builders—

Forder & Co., Ltd., Warrant Holders to H.M. the King, Upper St. Martin's Lane, W.C.; Works, Wolverhampton ... ...

Cartridge Manufacturers—

Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Cement Manufacturers—

Peters Bros., London, S.W.... 22
West Kent Portland Cement Co., Burham, nr. Rochester 6

Charm Manufacturers— PAGE

Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Chemical Manufacturers—

Anglo - Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ... ...
Bessler, Waechter & Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Blythe, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs ... ...
Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., Northwich, Cheshire ...
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith ... ...
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle ... ...
Miller, Jas., Son & Co., Glasgow ... ...
The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

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Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B. ... ...

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Special attention may be drawn to the NEW 70-TON CRANE in the ROATH DOCK, thus enabling THE CARDIFF RAILWAY COMPANY to ship or unship THE HEAVIEST WEIGHTS.

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The NEW SOUTH DOCK will be entirely equipped with these COALING CRANES, in deference to the wishes of so many shippers and buyers of CARDIFF COAL.

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RAILWAY ACCOMMODATION.—CARDIFF is the NATURAL PORT for BIRMINGHAM and the MIDLAND DISTRICT, as the London & North Western, Midland, and Great Western Railway Companies have direct communication from the Ship's Side.

DOCK CHARGES.—These are much below the average of our Great Ports. Vessels can generally procure an outward cargo to any PORT in the WORLD, thus giving the Bute Docks an advantage for Imports, as vessels do not require to change Ports.

TRADE.—The BUTE DOCKS were opened in the year 1839, and the IMPORTS and EXPORTS in 1902 were as follows:—Imports, 2,117,510 TONS; Exports, 7,684,087 TONS; Total, 9,801,597 TONS.

CATTLE IMPORTATION.—The BUTE DOCKS are the ONLY DOCKS in South Wales which have permission from the BOARD OF TRADE to land FOREIGN CATTLE. Excellent CATTLE LAIRS, SLAUGHTER HOUSES, and CHILL ROOMS are erected adjacent to the Wharf in the deepest-water dock, with Railways leading into them, having communication with all PARTS.

COLD STORAGE.—Ample Accommodation of the most modern description is provided for the storage of dead meat, poultry, provisions, vegetables, &c.

STATUS OF CARDIFF.—CARDIFF now occupies the position of being the FIRST PORT in the UNITED KINGDOM for shipping cleared to FOREIGN COUNTRIES and BRITISH POSSESSIONS and the PREMIER PORT in the WORLD for the SHIPMENT OF COAL.

NOTE.—The Bute Docks are the only Docks situated in the Town of Cardiff. Vessels using the Bute Docks thereby save their owners and Captains from loss of time in making journeys between the Vessels and the Merchants' and Brokers' Offices, Banks, Custom House, Post Office, &c., all of which Offices are adjacent to the Bute Docks.

The fullest information on all matters will be readily granted on application to the

CARDIFF RAILWAY COMPANY, BUTE DOCKS, CARDIFF.

THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Chemical Manure Manufacturers—*continued*—
Richards, G. H., 234, Borough High Street, S.E. ... ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Chemical & Physical Apparatus—
Reynolds & Branson, Ltd., Leeds ... ...

Chemists (Manufacturing)—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
Scott & Bowne, Ltd., London, E.C. (Scott's Emulsion) ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

Chilled Shot—
The Abbey Improved Chilled Shot Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne 2

Chimney Cowl Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester ... 2

Chimney Shaft, &c., Builder and Repairer—
Lewis, Joseph, 5 and 6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. ... ...

China Clay—
Lovering, John, & Co., St. Austell 18

PAGE

China Door Furniture Mnfrs.—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C...

China Electrical Fittings—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C...

China Manufacturers—
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...
Lovering, John, & Co., St. Austell, Cornwall 18

Chronometers—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....
Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 and 34, Cockspur Street, London... ...

Clocks and Watches—
Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 and 34, Cockspur Street, London... ...
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...

Cloth Finishing Machines—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee

Clothing (Fustian)—
Brown, R. B., & Sons, Hebden Bridge... 8

Clothing Manufacturers (Fustian)—
Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge C

Clothing and Woollen Mnfrs.—
Grainger & Smith, Dudley ...

PAGE

Cloths for Machinery—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury

Clutch Manufacturers—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ... —

Coal and Coke—
Cannock Chase Colliery Co., Ltd., Birmingham ... —
Cory Bros., & Co., Ltd., Cardiff ... ... —
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. ...
Wharncliffe Woodmoor Colliery Co., Ltd., Barnsley...
Wigan Coal and Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan ... ... —

Coal Depot Proprietors—
Cory Bros. & Co., Cardiff ...
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. —

Coal Screening Plant—
Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield ... ... —

Coatings—Cotton—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester C

Cocoa and Chocolate Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ... —

Coffee Mill Manufacturers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ... —

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

lliery Engines—
Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield ... ...

lliery Owners—
Cannock Chase Colliery Co., The, Ltd., Birmingham ...
Cory Bros. & Co., Cardiff ...
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. ...
Wharncliffe Woodmoor Colliery Co., Ltd., Barnsley...

lour Manufacturers—
Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen...
Levinstein, Ltd., Manchester
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C.
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

mposition for Bottoms of Ships—
Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen...
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...

mpressed Gases (Fittings for)—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

ncertinas (English)—
Lachenal & Co., Little James Street, W.C. 6

nfectioners—
Craven, M. A., & Son, Ebor Confectionery Works, York

nfectioners' Colours, Essences, &c.—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours and Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., Hackney Wick, N.E. ... ...
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

nfectioners (Manufacturing, Wholesale and Export)—
Craven, M. A., & Son, Ebor Confectionery Works, York

PAGE

Coping and Paving Bricks—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Copper Tape, Wire Rope, &c.—
Connolly Bros., Ltd., Blackley, Manchester ... ...
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Corks—
Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks ... ...

Cotton Bagging—
Judge, T. & W., London, S.E. 14

Cotton Goods—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow 1
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury 3
Spinner, E., & Co., Manchester C

Cotton Waste—
Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester... ...

Cranes, Crab-Winches—
Russell, George, & Co., Motherwell, N.B. ... ...

Creosote—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Damp Wall Compositions—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E.

Decklights and Porthole Glasses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Birmingham 26

Decorated Tin Plates—
The Tinplate Decorating Co., Ltd., Neath ... ...

Decorative Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Delta Metal Manufacturers—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Disinfectants—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... .

PAGE

Disintegrators—
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable... ... ...
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ... ...

Distillers—
Crawford, Daniel, & Son, Ltd., Glasgow ... ...
Dailuaine - Talisker Distilleries, Ltd., Carron, Strathspey ... ...
Distillers Co., Ltd., The, Edinburgh ... ...

Docks (Floating) Caissons, &c.—
Cardiff Railway Co., The, Bute Docks, Cardiff; London Office, 22A, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W. 11
Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Co., Wyre Dock, Fleetwood ... ...

Door Furniture—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C...

Drilling Machines—
Northern Engineering Co., Ltd., King's Cross, near Halifax ... ...

Drills—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester. C

Dry Soap—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Dye Merchants—
Edge, Wm., Sons & Co., Bolton... 21

Edge Tools—
Thornton, G., & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Electrical Fittings (China)—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C....

Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and Contractors—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C....
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and Contractors—*continued*—
Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Lewis, Joseph, 5-6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. ... ...

Electric Bells—
Wright, Archibald J., Ltd., 318, Upper St., London, N.

Electric Light Fittings—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C....

Electric Novelties—
Wright, Archibald J., Ltd., 318, Upper St., London, N.

Electrical Screws (Iron, Steel or Brass)—
Acme Lathe Co., Ltd., The, Ardwick, Manchester ...

Emery and Corundum Wheel Manufacturers—
London Emery Works Co., 58H Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, near Manchester ...

Emery and Glass Cloth—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...

Emery and Glass Paper—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...

Emery Grindg. Machine Mkrs.—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester ... ...

Emery Manufacturers—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (Emery Wheel and Corundum Wheel Manufacturers) ...

Enamel Colours—
Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen...

PAGE

Enamelled Fire Clay Sinks—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

Encaustic Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Sons, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs... ...

Engine Cleaning Waste—
Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester... ...

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Chidlaw, Robert, Manchester
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Garrett, R., & Sons, Leiston, Suffolk ... ...

PAGE

Engineers and Millwrights—*General*—*continued*—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N.
Howorth, J., & Co., Farnworth, Manchester ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (various forms of Engineers' Grinding and Polishing Machinery) ... ...
Marriott & Graham, Govan, Glasgow (Boiler Makers)...
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Whittingham & Porter, Hull
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorkshire ... ...

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Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Engine-cleaning Waste—
Jones, W. C., Ltd., Manchester ... ...

Engine Roll Bars—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Sheffield ... ...

Essence Manufacturers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours & Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., The, London, N.E.
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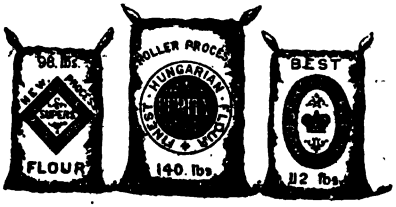

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

ssences, &c.—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

ssential Oils—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
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Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn... 2

xhibition Fitters—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

ancy Goods, Dealers in, Importers, Warehousemen and Manufacturers—
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...

ancywood Merchants—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool 10

an Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester ... 2

eding Stuffs (for Cattle & Sheep)—
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B. ... ...

lts (Paper Makers' Machine)—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury 3

ncing (Steel and Iron)—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

le Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... ...

lter Manufacturers—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...

re Bricks—
Calder Fireclay Co., The, Coatbridge... ... ...
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

Fire Bricks—*continued*— PAGE
King Bros., Stourbridge ... 9
Pearson, E. J. & J., Stourbridge
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...

Fire Clay—
King Bros., Stourbridge ... 9
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...

Fire Clay Goods—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Sinks) ... ...

Flag and Banner Manufacturers—
Piggott Bros. & Co., London, E.C. 4

Flannel Manufacturers—
Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale C
Spinner & Co., Manchester... C

Flour Mill Engineers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Flour Millers—
Appleby, Josh., & Sons, Ltd., Liverpool ... ...
Vernon, W., & Sons, Liverpool 26

Forks—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Forwarding Agents—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., 38, Lime Street, E.C. ... ...

French Chalk—
Anglo-Italian Talc and Plumbago Mines Co., Ltd., 26, Old Hall Street, Liverpool

Fruit Essence Manufacturers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours & Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., London, N.E. ...
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

Furniture Trade Printers—
Smiley & Shaw, London, E.C. 9

Fustian Clothing Manufacturers—
Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge C

Fustian (Piece Goods)— PAGE
Moss Bros. (Hebden Bridge), Ltd. 6

Galvanized Iron Manufacturers—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Galvanized Wire Netting—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

Garden Adornments—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Garden Furniture—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

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Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Manchester ... ...

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Cannington, Shaw & Co., St. Helens, Lancashire ... ...

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Hodson Wright & Wood, Halifax ... ...

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Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

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Butterworth Bros., Newton Heath, Manchester ... ...
Tomey & Sons, Perth ... ...
Tomey, Joseph, & Sons, Messrs., Ltd., Manor Glass Works, Aston, Birmingham

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

General Export Merchants— PAGE
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E.... 8

Gin Distillers—
Distillers Co., Ltd., The, Edinburgh ... ...
Hills & Underwood, London, E.C. ... ...

Girders (Iron and Steel)—
Scott, Walter, Ltd., Leeds ...

Glass and Emery Paper—
London Emery Works Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Glass Bottles—
Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks ... ...
Cannington, Shaw & Co., Ltd., St. Helens ... ...

Glass Case Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Glass Manufacturers—
Robinson, J. B., 31, Moor Lane, E.C. C
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham 26

Glass Works—
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham 26

Glazed Bricks—
Woolliscroft, G., & Sons, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Glazed Fire Clay Sinks—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

Glaziers' Diamonds—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Glues—
The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan ...

Glycerine—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Golf Balls—
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ("Melfort" and "Henley")... ... ...

Grain Cleaning Machinery— PAGE
Boby, Robt., Ltd., Bury St. Edmunds ... ...

Granite Merchants—
Freeman, John, Sons & Co., Ltd., Penryn, Cornwall (Engineering and Architectural) 19

Grease Manufacturers—
Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Grinding Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable ... ...

Grinding & Polishing Machry.—
London Emery Works Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (Makers of various forms of)... ...

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Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ... ...

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Jones, S., & Co., 56, Carter Lane, St. Paul's, E.C. ...

Hammers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... ...

Hams and Bacon—
Nickson, G. & J., & Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Hand Looms—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ld., Bury

Hardwood Merchants—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool 10

Hat Manufacturers—
Christy & Co., London, E.C. C

Heating & Ventilating Engineers—
Hartley & Sugden, Halifax (Boilers) ... ...
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Hinge and Lock Manufacturers—
Crompton, Thomas, Ashton, near Wigan ... ...

Hoes— PAGE
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ... ...
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Holloware—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Hop Commissioners—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ... 9

Hose—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Hose-Pipe Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Hosiery—
Walker, R., & Sons, Rutland Street, Leicester ... ... B

Hosiery & Finishing Machnry.—
Berridge, I. L., & Co., Leicester (Sole Proprietors Griswold Knitters) ... ...

Hosiery Yarns—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford ... ...

Humidifier Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester ... 2

Hydraulic Engineers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Hydraulic Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ... ...

Hydraulic Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

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Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...

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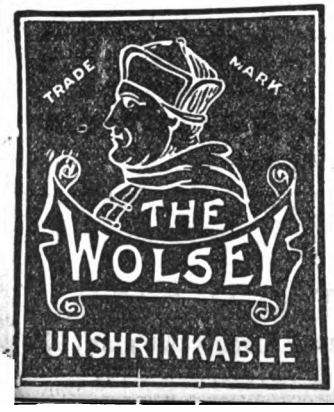

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

ıdia-rubber Goods—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C... 13

ıdia-rubber Manufacturers—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C... 13
Harris, Joseph, Altrincham (Advertising Balloons, Squeakers, and Rubber Surgical Appliances) ...
India-Rubber, Gutta-Percha & Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

jectors—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

k Manufacturers—
Blackwell & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

kstands—
Darke, E., 14a, Gt. Marlborough Street, W. ... ...

secticides (Horticultural)—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. ... ...

sulators—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C. ..

on Buildings—
Ash, J., & Son, Rea Street, South Birmingham ... ...
Humphreys, Ltd., Knightsbridge, London, S.W. ...

on Plate Workers—
Ash, J., & Son, Rea Street, South Birmingham ... ...

on Safes—
Ratner Safe Co., Ltd., Hancock Road, Bow, E. 2

onfounders—
Roberts, J. & S., Ltd., West Bromwich ... ...
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee
Saxby & Farmer, Canterbury Road, London, N.W. ...
Whittingham & Porter, Hull
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

PAGE

Ironmasters—
Baird, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Gartsherrie, N.B. ... ...
Parkgate Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham ... ...
Whiteley & Sons, Ltd., Huddersfield ... ...

Ironstone Adamant Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs. ... ...

Jute Weaving Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Knitting Machine Builders—
Stibbe, G., & Co., Leicester...
Harrison Patent Knitting Machine Co., Ltd., 227, Upper Brook Street, Manchester ... ...

Lacquer Manufacturers—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E...
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E. ... ...
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Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Patricroft, Manchester ...

Launch Oil Engines—
The Seal Motor Co., Hammersmith, London ... ...

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Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N. ... ...

Lead Manufacturers—
Hall, W., Winstanley Road, Battersea, S.W.... ... ...

Leather Belting (Link)—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

PAGE

Leather Reviver—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E.

Leggings and Gaiters—
Wallace, Bailey & Wilkins, Bermondsey, London, S.E.

Lens Manufacturers for Ships and Railway Lamps—
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham 26

Letter Cutters—
Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield ... 2

Lifts—
Clark, Bunnett, & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

Lightning Conductor Manufacturer and Erector—
Lewis, Joseph, 5 & 6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. ... ...

Lime Juice—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. 15

Liquorice Wafers—
Hillabys', Ltd., Pontefract...

Lithographic Varnish—
Coates Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Locomotive Engine Builders—
Aveling & Porter, Ltd., Rochester ... ...
Burrell, C., & Sons, Ltd., Thetford ... ...
Garrett, R., & Sons, Leiston, Suffolk ... ...

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Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2
Robinson, J. B., 31, Moor Lane, E.C.... C

Loom Makers—
Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee

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Lubricants—*continued*— PAGE
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Lubricating Oils—
Light, Jas., & Son, Ltd., 9, Rumford Street, Liverpool
Nobel Bros., Petersburg ...
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Lubricators—
Nobel Bros., Petersburg ...

Machine Felts—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury

Machine Knives, Cutters & Blades—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ...

Machine Makers—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee

Machine Screws, Bolts, Nuts, &c.—
Acme Lathe Co., Ltd., The, Ardwick, Manchester ...

Magnesia—
Henry, T. & W., East Street, St. Peters, Manchester ...

Manchester Warehousemen—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E. ... 8

Manures (Chemical)—
Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ... ...
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd. Leith ... ...
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle ... ...
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United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

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Fabbricotti, B., Pimlico, London, S.W. ... ...

Marble Manufacturers of all Descriptions—
Fabbricotti, B., Pimlico, London, S.W. ... ...

Mattresses (Woven Wire)— PAGE
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Hay Mill, Birmingham ... ...
Lane, George, & Sons, Brueton Street, Birmingham ...

Medical Plasters—
De St. Dalmas, A., & Co., Leicester ... ...

Metal Merchants and Manfrs.—
Billington & Newton, Longport, Staffs. ... ...
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Dugard Bros., Birmingham...
King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

Metal Polish—
Baumgartner, J. F., & Co., London, W. 17

Military and Naval Ornaments—
Narborough, F., 40, 42, 44, Lombard Street, Birmingham ... ...
Wilkins, T. B., 52, Clement Street, Birmingham... ...

Mine Owners—
Wigan Coal & Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan (Producers of Best House, Gas and Steam Coals, and Wigan Cannel)

Mineral Waters—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. 15

Mining Lamps (all classes)—
Cooke, Joseph, & Son (Belmont Passage), 203, Lawley Street, Birmingham ... ...

Mortar and Pestle Manfrs.—
Bullers, Ltd., London E.C....

Mortice Furniture—
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Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs. ... ...

Motors (Gas Tight)—
Hodgson, Wright & Wood, Halifax ... ...

Mushroom Ketchup— PAGE
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...

Musical Instrument Manfrs.—
Lachenal & Co., London, W.C. 6

Mustard Seed—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ... 2

Nails—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 25

Name Plate Makers—
Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield ... 2

Newspapers—
Colliery Guardian, 49, Essex Street, Strand, W.C. ... 12

Night Lights—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Oar Manufacturers—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool 10

Office Fittings—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Oilcake (Linseed and Cotton)—
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd. Leith, N.B. ... ...

Oil Cans—
Bladon, T. E., 99 & 100, Northwood Street, Birmingham; London address, 4, Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, E.C. ... ...
Kaye, Joseph, & Sons, Ltd., Leeds ... ...

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Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Manchester ... ...
The Seal Motor Co., Hammersmith, London ... ...

Oil Mill Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

Oil Refiners, Distillers, & Mfrs.—
Bremner, Jno. A., & Co., Manchester ... ...
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MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Refiners, Distillers, and Manufacturers—*continued*— PAGE

ice's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...
obinson, J. B., London, E.C. ... ...
ilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Tiling—
ie Permanent Decorative Glass Co., Ltd., Lancaster..

Crushing Machines—
axter, W. H., Leeds ... ...

s—
aker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

rds Manufacturers—
nderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow 1

es—
arwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

gen, Cylinder Valves for—
otch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

t Manufacturers—
oyle, Robson, Barnett & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne...
arker & Lester, London, S.E. (Antimony Paint) ...
eacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...
obinson, E., & Co., Ltd., City Works, Sheffield ...
zerelmey & Co., London, S.E. ... ...
ilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

er Bag Makers (Home and Export)—
igham Bros., Cone Works, Farnworth, near Bolton, Lancs.... 20

er Bags—
mith, Stone & Knight, Ltd., Union Paper Mills, Birmingham ... ...

Paper Makers— PAGE
Smith & McLaurin, Messrs., Ltd., Milliken Park, Scotland (Coated and Gummed Papers) ... ...
Tullis, R., & Co., Markinch, Fife 1

Paper Makers and Stationers (Wholesale and Export)—
Annandale, John, & Sons, Ltd., Shotley Grove, Durham 3
Dickinson, J., & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Ford, T. B., Loudwater, High Wycombe (Blottings)
Hodgkinson, W. S., & Co., Wells, Somerset C
Hollingsworth & Co., Maidstone 23
Olive & Partington, Manchester C

Paper Makers' Steel and Bronze Tools—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ...

Paper Makers' Tools—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Sheffield ... ...

Parquet Flooring—
Geary, Walker & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Patent Fuel Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

Pavement Light Lenses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Birmingham 26

Paving Bricks—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Pen Manufacturers—
Gillott, J., & Sons, Birmingham ... ...

Perfumers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E....

Perfumery Materials— PAGE
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E....
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

Phosphor Bronze—
Billington & Newton, Longport, Staffs. ... ...

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Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ... ...

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Buckley, W., & Co., Millsands, Sheffield... ... ...

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Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby... ... ...

Plate Glass Manufacturers—
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C. C

Plumbago—
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Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C...

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Portland Cement— PAGE
Peters Bros., 34, Victoria Street, S.W. 22
West Kent Portland Cement Co., Burham, Rochester, Kent 6

Preservative for Stone, &c.—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. ... ...

Printers, Publishers, and Engravers—
Colliery Guardian Co., Ltd., 49, Essex Street, Strand, W.C. 10
Sheppard & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. 4
Smily & Shaw, London, E.C. 9

Printing Ink Manufacturers—
Blackwell & Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Coates Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Proprietary Articles, Specialities, &c.—
Baumgartner, J. F., & Co., London, W. ("La Brillantine" Metallic Powder) 17
Dalmas, A. de St., & Co., Leicester (Medical Plaisters)
Henry's Calcined Magnesia (T. & W. Henry), Manchester
Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Co., Lincoln (Clarke's Blood Mixture)..
Scott & Bowne, Ltd., London E.C. (Scott's Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil)... ...

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Nickson, G. & J., & Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Provisions (Importers and Exporters)—
Gunson, Geo., Sons & Co., 3, Atherton Street, Liverpool

Pulley Blocks— PAGE
Godfrey, J. T., Loughborough

Pulleys—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

Pumping Engines—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Pumps—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

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Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

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Saxby & Farmer, Ltd., Canterbury Road, London, N.W. (Railway Signals, &c.) ... ...

Railway Brass Foundry—
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Railway Lamp Lenses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham 26

Railway Signals—
Saxby & Farmer, Ltd., London, N.W. ... ...

Rain Water Separator—
Rogers, H. J., Shottermill, Haslemere ... ...

Reducing Valves for Compressed Gases—
Scotch & Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Refrigerators— PAGE
Haslam Foundry and Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Derby ... ...
Pulsometer Engineering Co., The, Reading and London

Retorts—
Stevens, J., & Son, Birmingham 2

Rings and Springs—
Buckley, Wm., & Co., Millsands, Sheffield... ... ...

Rivet, Bolt, and Nut Manfrs.—
Gadd, Thos., Rowley Regis, Dudley ... ...
Guest, Keen, & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 5
Periam, H. W., Birmingham
Priest, B., & Sons, Oldhills, Staffs ... ...

Roof Glazing—
Grover & Co., Ltd London, N.

Roofing (Patent)—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N.

Roofing Tile Machinery—
Woolliscroft. G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs. ... ...

Roofing Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Rope Manufacturers—
Piggott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. 4

Rubber Tyres—
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N. 9

Sacks and Bags—
Judge, T. & W., London, E.C. (Cotton) 14
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool ... ...

Saddlery, Harness, &c., Mfrs.—
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Safety Fuse Manufacturers— PAGE
Nobel's Explosive Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Salt—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Salvage and Dismantling Contractors—
Adams, John, & Sons, Broad Chare, Newcastle-on-Tyne 2

Sanitary Appliances—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Drain Pipes and Traps, Sanitary Earthenware, W.C. Basins, Urinals, and Washdown Closets, Enamelled Sinks) ... ...

Sanitary Paints—
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...

Sanitary Potters—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

Sauce Manufacturers—
Cocks, Chas., & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...

Saw Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... ...

Scrap Iron—
Adams, John, & Sons, Broad Chare, Newcastle-on-Tyne 2

Screw Hooks, Screw Eyes—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 25

Screwing Tackle—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ... ...

Screws and Spindles—
Dodd, Joseph, & Co., Chester Works, Aston, Birmingham

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Seals—
Pryor, E. & Son, Sheffield ... 2

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Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ... 20

Seeds— PAGE
Cooper, Taber & Co., Ltd., London 24

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Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford... 8
Hamlyn Bros., Ltd., Buckfastleigh, Devon 4
Spinner & Co., Manchester... C

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Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester (Hard and Soft Soaps)... ... ...

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Hodson, Wright & Wood, Halifax ... ...

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Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...

Steam Saw Mills—
Fabbricotti, B., London, S.W.

Steam Valves— PAGE
Shaw, J., Albert Works, Huddersfield ... ...

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Stoves—
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Surgical India Rubber Mfrs.—
Harburg and Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C. . 13

Surgical Instrument Mfstr.—
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PAGE

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Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E ... 8
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Spinner, E., & Co., Manchester C

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Gradwell, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness, Lancs.

PAGE

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Typewriter—
Yost Typewriter Co., Ltd., The, London, E.C. ... ...

PAGE

Tyre Manufacturers—
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N.... 9

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Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

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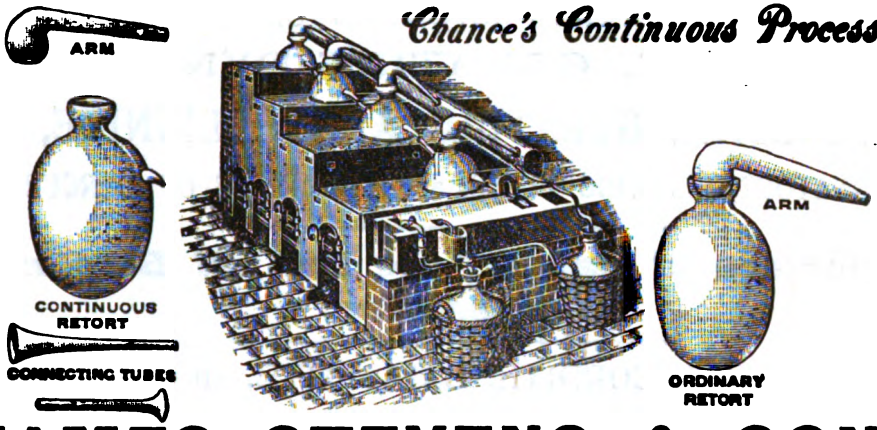

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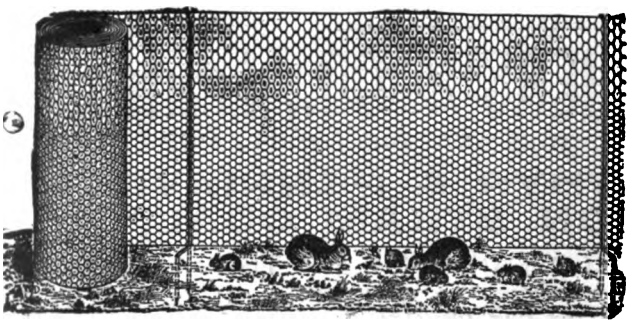

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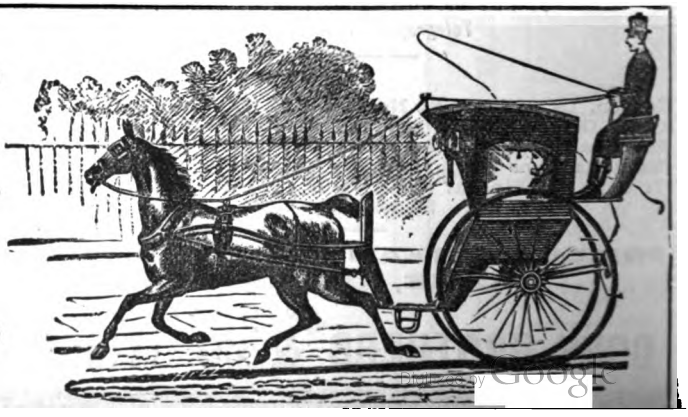

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Railway Returns for the United Kingdom, 1903. [Cd. 2193/04.] Price 1*s*. 4*d*.

Shipping Casualties—Abstracts of Returns of Shipping Casualties on or near the Coasts of the United Kingdom, 1902-03 (with Charts and Appendices). [Cd. 2212/04.] Price 4*s*. 7*d*.

Statistical Abstract for the United Kingdom. 1889-1903. [Cd. 2192/1904.] Price 1*s*. 3d.

Statistical Abstract for the British Empire, 1889-1903. [Cd. 2395.] Price 6*d*.

Statistical Abstract for the Colonies. 1889-1903. [Cd. 1912/04.] Price 1*s*. 10*d*.

Statistical Abstract for Foreign Countries. 1892 to 1901-02. [Cd. 2202/04.] Price 1*s*. 6*d*.

Statistical Tables relating to British Colonies, Possessions, and Protectorates. Part XXVII. 1902. [Cd. 2184/04.] Price 7*s*.

Tables showing the Progress of Merchant Shipping in the United Kingdom and the principal maritime countries, 1903. [294/1904.] Price 9*d*.

Tramways and Light Railways (Street and Road) Return. [310/05.] Price 6*d*.

II.—MONTHLY RETURNS—

Accounts relating to Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for each month during the Year. February, 1905. [25-I/05.] Price 1*s*. 1*d*.

Accounts relating to the Trade and Commerce of certain Foreign Countries and British Possessions. [82.XI./1905.] Price 4½*d*.

III.—OCCASIONAL RETURNS:—

Alcoholic Beverages.—Production and Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages (Wine, Beer, and Spirits) in the various European Countries and United States. [345/1904.] Price 9*d*.

British and Foreign Trade and Industry Memoranda, Statistical Tables and Charts. [Cd. 1761/1903.] Price 3*s*. 6*d*.

British and Foreign Trade and Industry. Second Series of Memoranda, Statistical Tables and Charts. [Cd. 2337.] Price 3*s*. 6*d*.

British Colonies (Duties on Imports). No. 299/03. Price ½*d*.

Canada (Preferential Tariff for Goods from the United Kingdom). 310/03 Price ½*d*.

Certificates of Origin. Memorandum. [Cd. 1446/03.] Price 3*d*.

Commercial Mission to South Africa.—Report from the Special Commissioner appointed by the Board of Trade. [Cd. 1844/03.] Price 1*s*. 6*d*.

Commercial Mission to South America.—Reports from the Special Commissioner appointed by the Board of Trade. Brazil [Cd. 9160/98 and 9161/99.] Price 3*d*. each. Uruguay [Cd. 9298/99.] Price 3*d*.

Commercial Mission to Persia.—Reports from the Special Commissioner appointed by the Board of Trade. [Cd. 2146.] Price 1*s*. 3*d*. [Cd. 2281.] Price 1½*d*.

Commercial Travellers. Memorandum. [Cd. 1961.] Price 3*d*.

Continental Free Ports. Return. 344. Price 2½*d*.

Exports from the United Kingdom of Woollen and Cotton Goods and Cutlery in 1877, 1882, 1887, &c., and 1902. [327/03.] Price ½*d*.

Food Supplies (Imported) Return. [179/03.] Price 4½*d*.

Imports and Exports of United Kingdom by Groups of Countries. [214/1903.] Price ½*d*.

Labour Department.—Report by the Chief Labour Correspondent on Trade Unions in 1901, with Comparative Statistics. [Cd. 1348/02.] Price 11½*d*.

Memorandum on the comparative Statistics of Population, Industry and Commerce of the United Kingdom and some leading Foreign Countries. [Cd. 1199/1902.] Price 5½*d*.

Preferential Trade Return, showing the advantages granted to other countries in States where British trade does not enjoy most-favoured-nation treatment. [329/1903.] Price 1½*d*.

Report to the Board of Trade by the Advisory Committee on Commercial Intelligence, with reference to their Proceedings. [Cd. 2,044/04.] Price 4½*d*.

Tea and Coffee.—Statement showing the Imports of Tea and Coffee into the principal Countries of Europe, the United States, and British Colonies. [363/1902.] Price 6*d*.

Trade between the United Kingdom, Canada and Germany. Return. [328/1903.] Price 4*d*.

Trade of the United Kingdom with Germany. [131.] Price 1½*d*.

Trade of British Colonies with Foreign Countries. [110/1904.] Price 2*d*.

Trade (Colonies and United Kingdom). Return. [262/03.] Price 2*d*.

Trade of British Possessions. Statement during the Year 1901. [Cd. 1638/03.] Price 1*d*.

Unemployed in Foreign Countries. Report. [Cd. 2304.] Price 1*s*.

Wholesale and Retail Prices in the United Kingdom in 1902, with comparative Statistical Tables for a series of years. [321/1903.] Price 2*s*. 1*d*.

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Board of Trade Journal.

MARCH 16TH, 1905.

CONTENTS.

PAGE

Openings for British Trade 485

British Colonies, &c.:—

British India.—Tenders for Bridgework Spans.
" " Deck Spans.
" " Railway Stores.

Canada.—Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

Cape Colony.—Opening for Steam Rollers.
Tenders for Hardware.

Transvaal.—Tenders for Electric Tramway and Lighting Materials.

Foreign Countries:—

Openings for Trade in Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, French India, Spain, Italy, Mexico, Panama, Brazil and China.

Exhibitions:—St. Petersburg, London.

Board of Trade and the Imperial Institute 496

Appointment of Managing Committee.

Commercial Intelligence Committee 496

Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade 496

Agents in the Colonies.

Trade of Cape Colony in 1904 497

Currency in German Colonies 498

Trade of the Transvaal in 1904 499

Cotton Spinning and Weaving in India 500

Cotton Mills in China 501

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations 502

British India. Ceylon. Gambia. Grenada. Montserrat. St. Christopher-Nevis. Egypt. Netherlands. Belgium—Greece. France. Italy. United States of America. Argentina.

Shipping and Transport 514

Railway Statistics of New South Wales. New Navigation Act of Western Australia. Closing of a Jamaica Port of Entry. Russian Railway Statistics. Shipping at Antwerp. Steamship Service between Ghent and Ireland. Rates on the Conakry-Niger Railway.

Minerals, Metals, and Machinery 516

New Asbestos Deposits in Canada. Production of Pig-iron in Canada in 1904. Proposed Establishment of Ironworks in New South Wales. Tin Exports from the Federated Malay States. Bureau at Paris of French and Belgian Mineral Undertakings in Russia.

Yarns and Textiles 518

Proposed Cotton Spinning and Dyeing Establishment in Palermo. Ready-made Clothing Industry of Baltimore. Exports of Cotton Goods from the United States of America.

Agriculture 520

Cotton Cultivation in the Northern Territory of South Australia. Native Crops of the East Africa Protectorate. Cattle Trade of Austria-Hungary. Exports of Coffee from Brazil in 1904.

Miscellaneous 523

Fishery Statistics of the United Kingdom. Inspectors of Weights and Measures. Proposed establishment of Enquiry Bureaus in Russia. Establishment of a Special Currency in Panama.

Statistical Tables 524

Cotton Returns.
Corn Prices.
Imports of Agricultural Produce.
Alien Immigration Statistics.

Government Publications 527

Board of Trade Returns and Labour Gazette. Note of Foreign and Colonial Office Reports, also of certain other Government Publications having a bearing upon trade issued during the week. List of Foreign Office Reports, arranged geogra-

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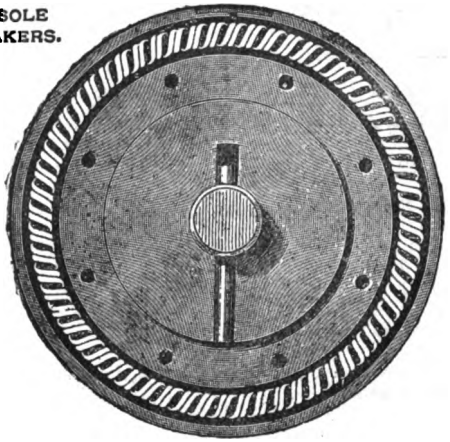

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THE

Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. XLVIII.] March 16, 1905. [No. 433.

In a notice on p. 530 will be found a statement of the objects and work of the **Commercial Intelligence Branch** of the Board of Trade.

The Branch has been moved from 50, Parliament Street to 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

"Advantage, London" is the registered telegraphic address of the Branch.

The following special trade enquiry offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.	Queensland.
Dominion of Canada.	Cape of Good Hope.

(See "Board of Trade Journal," 15th December, pp. 488-9, or 22nd December, p. 541.)

Attention is directed to the Sample Room at the latter address, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute, India, or the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time. At present there are on view, among other exhibits, seven samples of tobacco, grown in Jamaica, eleven samples of cotton grown within the Empire, received from the British Cotton Growing Association, also three samples of Antigua cotton received from the West India Committee.

INFORMATION ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

Information on the subjects named in the notice on the cover will be found in the following Board of Trade publications, obtainable in London upon application to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W., and their Sub-Agents, Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.; in

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Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, at the prices named, viz.:—

1 "Board of Trade Journal," 3rd September, 1903, pp. 448-61, 5th May, 1904, p. 216, 4th August, 1904, p. 212, 10th November, 1904, pp. 265-6, and 9th February, 1905, p. 259, at 1*d.* per number.

2, 3, 4, 5 Statistical Abstract for the United Kingdom, 51st number (Cd. 2,192), at 1*s.* 3*d.* ... ... pp. 28/29; p. 12; pp. 176/191; pp. 57/157

5 Monthly Accounts relating to Trade and Navigation (0.10) at 8½*d.*
Annual Statement of Trade, 1903. Vol. I. (Cd. 2,043) at 7*s.* 1*d.* ... pp. 166 *et seq.*
Annual Statement of Trade, 1903. Vol. II. (Cd. 2,081) at 5*s.* ... ... pp. 177/453

6, 7 Annual Abstract of Labour Statistics, 9th No. (Cd. 1,755) at 1*s.* ... pp. 176/182; pp. 34/72

7 Report on Changes in Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour (Cd. 2,199), at 7*d.*

8 Colonial Import Duties Return (Cd. 2,185) 2*s.* 1*d.*

9 Canada (Preferential Tariff for goods from the United Kingdom), No. 310, at ½*d.*

10 Statistical Abstract for the Colonial and other Possessions of the United Kingdom, 41st No. (Cd. 1,912) at 1*s.* 10*d.* ... ... pp. 38/243
Statistical Abstract for the British Empire, 1st No. (Cd. 2,395) at 6*d.* ... pp. 3/45
Trade (Colonies & the United Kingdom), No. 262, 2*d.*
Trade (Colonies and Foreign Countries), No. 110, 2*d.*

11 Foreign Import Duties Return (Cd. 2,340) at 2*s.*

12 Statistical Abstract for the principal and other foreign countries, 30th number (Cd. 2,202) at 1*s.* 6*d.* ... pp. 44/217

13 Trade between the United Kingdom and Germany (131) at 1½*d.*

14 Memorandum on the comparative Statistics of Population, Industry, and Commerce in the United Kingdom and some leading foreign countries (Cd. 1,199) at 5½*d.*

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15 { British and Foreign Trade and Industry. Memoranda, Statistical Tables and Charts (Cd. 1,761) at 3*s.* 6*d.*
British and Foreign Trade and Industry (Second Series). Second Series of Memoranda, Statistical Tables and Charts (Cd. 2,337) at 3*s.* 6*d.*

16 Naval Expenditure and Mercantile Marine (Great Britain, &c.) (284) at 1*d.*

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

BRITISH INDIA.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS: INDIA OFFICE.

The Secretary of State for India in Council is prepared to receive tenders from such persons as may be willing to supply—

Spans. Bridgework, 100 feet spans.

The conditions of contract may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., or may be obtained on application to the Director-General of Stores, India Office, Whitehall, S.W. Tenders are to be delivered at the latter office by two p.m. on Tuesday, the 21st March, after which time no tender will be received.

The East Indian Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply and delivery of—

Deck Spans. 4 deck spans, 59 ft. 4 ins. in the clear, as per specification to be seen at the Company's Offices, Nicholas Lane, London, E.C.

Tenders are to be sent to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Deck Spans," not later than noon on Wednesday, the 22nd March.

The Company reserve the right to divide the order, also to decline any tender without assigning a reason, and do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

For each specification a fee of 1*l.* 1*s.* is charged, which cannot under any circumstances be returned.

The Madras Railway Company are prepared to receive, until noon on Monday the 27th March, tenders for the

Railway Stores. supply and delivery, free on board, of wrought iron and steel bars; sheets; plates and wire; copper and brass sheets; wire and rivets; zinc; tin; galvanised and lead sheets; pig-lead; files; wood screws; nails; chain; vices; picks; shovels; crowbars; hammers; wrenches; braces; augers; carpenter's tools; door bolts; locks; buckets; copying presses; lamp fittings; cutlery; general ironmongery; canvas; bunting; wicks; leather; emery cloth; brushes; hammer handles;

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Openings for British Trade.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

glass sheet; lenses; globes and gauge glasses; crockery; fire clay; grindstones; soaps; tar; red and white lead; paints; acids and drysalteries; turpentine; varnishes; and fog signals, as per specifications to be seen at the Company's offices, 1, Broad Street Place, Finsbury Circus, E.C.

Tenders should be delivered in sealed envelopes addressed to the Secretary, endorsed "Tender for Stores." The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest, or any tender. A charge (which cannot be refunded) will be made for each copy of the specification.

Railway Stores.

The Directors of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply of the following stores, namely:—Yorkshire iron; copper rods; plate, sheet, and tinted glass; mild steel plates and bars; bolts, nuts, rivets, coach screws, &c.; copper pipes; gauge glasses, &c.; signal wire posts, brackets, pulleys, &c.; steelwork and ironwork for waggons.

Specifications and forms of tender may be obtained at the Company's Offices, 48, Copthall Avenue, E.C., on payment of the fee for the specification, which payment will not be returned.

Tenders must be delivered in sealed envelopes, addressed to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Yorkshire Iron," or, as the case may be, not later than 11 a.m. on Thursday, the 23rd March.

The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

CANADA.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following were among the recent enquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the **Canadian Government Offices, Victoria Street, S.W.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—An English firm of wholesale hardware merchants have asked to be placed in communication with Canadian furniture, brush and woodware manufacturers who may require agents in Great Britain.

A firm of iron merchants in the north of England are desirous of purchasing disused railway material and old metal generally from Canadian sources.

A firm of tea and coffee salesmen desire to be placed in communication with buyers in Canada to whom they could ship direct from bonded warehouse in Great Britain or from Calcutta and Colombo.

A London firm of barley and hop factors desire to be placed in direct communication with large farmers and shippers in Canada so as to realise the best market values.

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Openings for British Trade.

CANADA—*continued.*

Canadian Enquiries.—A Canadian tobacco manufacturer has requested to be referred to importers of Greek and Turkish licorice paste in cases, such as is used by tobacco manufacturers.

Enquiry is made by a Canadian company respecting the market in the United Kingdom at the present time for casein. Samples desired.

An Ottawa firm of fitters, plumbers and steam heating engineers desire to be placed in communication with manufacturers of lead pipe and pig lead in Great Britain.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, Victoria Street, S.W.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following trade enquiries have been received at the **Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office**, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., whence further information regarding them may be obtained :—

Home Enquiries.—A manufacturer of cabinet brass foundry is willing to appoint a Canadian resident agent.

A company manufacturing fenders, shovels, spades, and tools wish to develop business in Canada.

A firm possessing a connection among users of chair parts, handles, spindles, dowels, and other manufactures of wood would like to hear from first-class Canadian manufacturers of these goods.

A manufacturer of locks, keys, and brass goods would like to do business in Canada.

A firm manufacturing matting and various kinds of hemp, flax, and jute goods is willing to appoint a suitable Canadian agent.

A manufacturer of plumbers' and engineers' brass goods wishes to be placed in communication with Canadian importers.

A company manufacturing weldless steel tubing seeks a share of Canadian trade.

A company manufacturing varnishes, paints, and colours are prepared to appoint a Canadian agent.

A company manufacturing cycles and motor-cycles are willing to appoint a Canadian resident agent.

A firm possessing a connection among buyers of wood wool invite samples accompanied by quotations from Canadian exporters of this material.

A firm manufacturing ladies' blouses, tea gowns, and dressing-gown specialities are prepared to appoint a first-class Canadian resident agent to introduce their goods.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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Openings for British Trade.

CAPE COLONY.

Steam Rollers.

In a communication received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from their Correspondent at Cape Town (Mr. E. J. Cattell), he states that there is a good opening for steam rollers in Cape Colony. This is consequent on the steps which are being taken by the various Divisional Councils to improve the main trunk roads in all parts of the Colony. Steam rollers are already largely used for road-making purposes in Cape Town, and now that macadamised roads are being laid down more and more, it is certain, says Mr. Cattell, that the demand for these implements will increase.

A list of the several Divisional Councils in Cape Colony may be consulted at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

Hardware.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch have also received from Mr. Cattell a notification to the effect that tenders will be received at the office of the Controller and Auditor-General at Cape Town up to noon on the 14th April, for the supply of hardware for the use of the convict stations and gaols in Cape Colony. Standard samples of the articles required can be inspected in Cape Town, and persons tendering will be presumed to have made themselves acquainted with the description and quality of the articles required.

A limited number of forms of tender, together with schedules of the articles required, may be obtained (until the supply is exhausted) at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

TRANSVAAL.

Electric Tramway and Lighting Materials.

The Municipal Council of Johannesburg are prepared to receive tenders for the following electric tramway and lighting materials, and for erection of the same to Specification No. 13 of their Consulting Engineers, Messrs. Mordey & Dawbarn, of 82, Victoria Street, London, S.W. Tenders will be considered for any one or more of the five following complete sections:—

Section "A."—The supply of tramway poles and brackets.

Section "B."—The supply of feeder pillars, controllers, insulators, and all overhead material.

Section "C."—The supply of street arc lamps, glow lamp fittings, lanterns, ornamental lamp posts, automatic switches, &c.

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Section "D."—The erection of the material included in Sections "A," "B," and "C."

Section "E."—The supply of a motor tower waggon.

Copies of the specification may be seen on and after Saturday, 18th March, at the Council's offices, Johannesburg, and at the Consulting Engineers' offices in London, and may be obtained on payment of five guineas, which will be returned on receipt of a *bonâ fide* tender. If further copies of the specification are required, they may, at the discretion of the Engineers, be supplied at a charge of 10*s*. per copy, which will not be returned.

Sealed tenders, addressed to Messrs. Mordey & Dawbarn, 82, Victoria Street, London, S.W., and clearly endorsed "Johannesburg Tender to Specification No. 13," must reach them not later than noon on Monday, 8th May, 1905.

The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted, and the Council will not be responsible for any expenses incurred in tendering.

SWEDEN.

Rails, &c.

The supplement to the "Post och Inrikes Tidninger" for 7th March contains a notice inviting tenders for the supply to the State Railway Administration of 3,250 metres (about 3,550 yards) of tram rails with fish-plates, bolts, &c.; four sets of junction rails, and two electric traverses. Tenders must be sent to the Registrar of the State Railway Administration, Stockholm, by 31st March. The notice referred to, which contains further details as to the class of rails, &c., required, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

Piping.

The same publication also contains a notice calling for tenders for the supply of certain quantities of specified kinds of piping for the Borlänge waterworks. Tenders must be sent in by 25th March. Particulars can be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

DENMARK.

Coal.

The "Berlingske Tidende" of 10th March contains a notice inviting tenders for the supply to the Slagelse Gasworks of 2,000 tons of first-class gas coal, in accordance with conditions which can be obtained from the President (Hr. Vilh. Lange) of the Gasworks Committee, Slagelse. No date for the receipt of tenders is stated.

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Openings for British Trade.

GERMANY.

Gas Coal.

A communication has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, from H.M. Consul at Stettin (Mr. R. Bernal), notifying that tenders are invited for the supply, in summer, of 25,000 centners (about 1,250 tons) of English gas coal free on rail at Köslin.

Sealed tenders, giving name of brand, and marked "Angebot auf Gaskohlen," must be delivered to "Der Magistrat, Köslin," not later than 25th March.

NETHERLANDS.

Railway Material.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul at Amsterdam (Mr. W. C. Robinson) that the Netherlands Minister of Colonies will receive tenders for the supply of the following materials:—

Contract No. 388.—1,442 cast iron supporting pots with appurtenances for railway carriages and waggons.

Contract No. 389.—Steel springs and parts of springs for railway carriages and waggons.

Contract No. LXXXVI.—Springs.

Contract No. LXXXVII.—150 cast iron supporting pots.

Tenders are to be sent to the Ministry of the Colonies at The Hague before Wednesday, 29th March, 1905. Further particulars may be procured from Mart, Nijhoff, The Hague, on payment of fl. 3 (5*s.*) for Contract No. 389; fl. 2 (3*s.* 4*d.*) for each of the Contracts Nos. 388 and LXXXVI; fl. 1 (1*s.* 8*d.*) for Contract No. LXXXVII.

Coal.

H.M. Consul at Amsterdam also reports that tenders will be received by the Director of Naval Establishments at Hellevoetsluis up to the 22nd March for the supply and delivery of about 1,200 tons of Cardiff coal. The Consul adds that no tenders direct from English firms can be accepted, one of the conditions being that tenders must be made through Dutch firms.

Particulars may be seen on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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Openings for British Trade.

BELGIUM.

Paving Work.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp (Mr. E. C. Hertslet), that the Municipal Authorities of that city have issued a notice inviting tenders for the supply and laying of paving stones in the following streets:—The Place St. Paul, the Rue St. Paul, and both sides of the St. Pierre Canal. The estimated cost of the work is from 83,150 francs (about 3,326*l.*) to 85,110 francs (about 3,404*l.*). A deposit of 4,300 francs (about 172*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

Specifications may be obtained from the Hôtel de Ville, Antwerp. Tenders in registered envelopes, addressed to the Burgomaster at the Hôtel de Ville, will be received up to the 21st March.

Railway Plant.

The "Bulletin Commercial" of 4th March announces that the Société Nationale des Chemins de Fer Vicinaux invite tenders for:—(1) the construction of a railway between Ittre and Virginal, and the improvement of the main road between these districts, at the estimated cost of 179,260 francs (about 7,170*l.*), the adjudication to take place on 29th March; (2) the construction of a section of the projected line from Poulseur to Trooz, at the estimated cost of 97,647 francs (about 3,905*l.*), the adjudication to take place on 3rd May. A deposit of 18,000 francs (about 720*l.*) is required in the case of (1), and of 10,000 francs (about 400*l.*) in the case of (2), to qualify any tender.

Tenders in registered envelopes, addressed to "M. le Directeur Général, Société Nationale des Chemins de Fer Vicinaux, 14, rue de la Science, Brussels," must be posted not later than the day previous to the date of adjudication. Specifications may be obtained from the above address on payment of 1 franc; those relating to (2) will not be available until 30th March.

Adjudication of Contract for Electric Cranes.

Adverting to the notice published in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 9th February, p. 249, respecting a call for tenders by the Municipality of Ghent for the supply of 15 electric cranes, the British Vice-Consul at that town (Mr. Picton Bagge) reports that the contract has been adjudged to a Belgo-German firm, established in Belgium, for the mechanical parts, in co-operation with a Belgian firm for the electric motors and equipment. The contract price for each of the cranes, which are to be of half-arch construction, is 440*l.* for the mechanical parts, 214*l.* for the electrical equipment, and 99*l.* for the lower and elevated rails therefor. This tender, 753*l.*, the lowest made, was rendered still more advantageous, when quickness of delivery and economy of working were taken into account.

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Openings for British Trade.

FRENCH INDIA.

Water Pipes: Building Materials: Railway Plant.

According to "Indian Engineering" (Calcutta), of the 4th February, the Pondicherry "Conseil-Général" have recently voted the sum of 4,923,000 fr. for various public works in the French Settlements. These comprise:—Improvement of the water supply of Pondicherry (650,000 fr.), and of Chandernagore (570,000 fr.); restoration of dam at Poulearcoupam (200,000 fr.); improvement of shipping accommodation at Karikal (165,000 fr.); construction of a railway from Vridhachellam to Cuddalore (2,995,000 fr.); erection of a hospital at Karikal (100,000 fr.); and extension of the pier at Pondicherry (243,000 fr.).

SPAIN.

Telegraph Posts.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 12th March announces that tenders will be opened 30 days after the publication of the notice, at the offices of the Director-General of the Telegraph Department, 10, Calle de Carretas, Madrid, for the supply of 20,000 pine telegraph posts, impregnated with sulphate of copper by the Boucherie system. The following sizes of posts are required:—(1) 100 of 12 metres high; (2) 600 of 10 metres high; (3) 13,000 of 8 metres high; (4) 6,300 of 6½ to 7 metres high. The maximum price at which tenders will be received is 35 pesetas per post for (1); 24 pesetas per post for (2); 16·50 pesetas per post for (3); and 12·10 pesetas per post for (4). A deposit of 5 per cent. of the value of the goods at the upset price is required to qualify any tender. Local representation is necessary.

The "Gaceta" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

ITALY.

Bunting; Coal Sacks.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from the British Vice-Consul at Spezia (Mr. E. M. de Garston) translations of notices calling for tenders for the supply to the Italian Navy of (1) bunting to the estimated value of 39,840 lire (about 1,593*l.*), to be delivered at the Royal Arsenals at Spezia, Naples and Venice as required; (2) coal sacks to the estimated value of 32,330 lire (about 1,293*l.*), to be delivered at the Royal Arsenals at Spezia and Naples as required.

Both of these contracts will be adjudged on the system of "subsequent improvements."*. Sealed tenders will be opened, in the case of (1) at 11 a.m. on the 3rd April, a deposit of 4,000 lire

* See "Board of Trade Journal" of 22nd December, 1904, pp. 536-7.

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Openings for British Trade.

ITALY—*continued.*

(about 160*l.*) being required to qualify any tender; and in the case of (2) at 11 a.m. on the 4th April, a deposit of 3,235 lire (about 130*l.*) being required to qualify any tender. The final date for improving on the price of the provisional adjudication by a further rebate of not less than 5 per cent. will expire, in both cases, at noon on 26th April. Local representation is necessary.

The special conditions of contracts may be seen at the Ministry of Marine, Rome; at the Directorates-General of the Royal Arsenals; at the Technical Office of the Navy at Genoa; and at the principal Chambers of Commerce in Italy.

Water Power Plant.

The "Bollettino delle Finanze" (Rome) of 5th March states that an application has been made to the Prefect of Arezzo, by Messrs. Giovanni & Buitoni, of San Sepolcro, for an appropriation of 300 litres of water per second from the Singerna waterfall, for the production of power for industrial purposes.

The same issue of the "Bollettino" notifies a concession granted by the Prefect of Turin to the Rivarolo and San Giorgio Canavese Manufacturers' Society for a similar appropriation from the Soana waterfall, district of Ronco Canavese.

Water Power Plant.

The "Bollettino" of 9th March states that the Prefect of Udine has granted Messrs. Venier Giusto, of Villasantina, an appropriation of 3 cubic metres of water per second from the Degano Waterfall, in the district of Rio S. Michele, for the production of motive power for the projected railway between Fortis and Villasantina, or for other industrial purposes in the event of this project not being realised.

Rolling Stock.

The same issue of the "Bollettino" publishes the text of a Bill introduced by the Italian Minister of Public Works to provide for the expenditure of 40,000,000 lire (about 1,600,000*l.*) on the purchase of rolling-stock and other materials for railways. The Bill contains a clause restricting the purchase of materials to native establishments, except in the case of those which are not manufactured in the country.

MEXICO.

Water Power Plant.

The "Diario Oficial" of Mexico of 16th February notifies the following applications for appropriations of water for industrial purposes:—

1. From Messrs. Pablo Ginther and Joaquin Cortazar, for an appropriation from the River Conchos, at a point

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Openings for British Trade.

near Ciudad Camargo, State of Chihuahua, for the production of electric power for tramways, lighting, &c.

2. From Mr. Thomas E. Pratt, for an appropriation of 2,500 litres per second from the River Grande, State of Oaxaca.

The "Diario" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

PANAMA.

Panama Canal Supplies.

With reference to the notice on p. 400 of the "Board of Trade Journal" respecting Panama Canal supplies, a communication has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from H.M. Consul at Panama (Mr. C. Mallet), reporting that recently a number of water-closets were needed for some new buildings under construction in the Canal Zone. An importer of British hardware established in Panama, who submitted five different systems of water-closets, was informed that they could not be accepted as they did not conform to American plumbing arrangements.

BRAZIL.

Building Materials.

In a recent report by the Austrian Consul-General at Rio de Janeiro, he remarks that in consequence of the enlargement and improvement of the harbour of Rio de Janeiro, the works of demolition connected therewith and the reconstruction of a number of streets, there is a large demand for iron and steel girders, cement, and other materials used in building. The construction of the new docks necessitates the erection of a large number of extensive warehouses, and, moreover, hundreds of modern houses will be built in place of the old buildings. These works will soon be commenced, and although iron and steel girders have not hitherto been made use of, yet it is probable that in the new buildings these will supersede the old-fashioned wooden materials.

The Consul-General adds that harbour works and various improvements are projected in other towns in Brazil, some quarters of which are about to be entirely modernised.

CHINA.

Railway Plant.

The "North China Herald" states that a large body of influential gentry and wealthy merchants of the province of Kiangsi have presented a joint petition to the Shangpu (Ministry of Commerce) asking permission to form a provincial syndicate for the construction of a railway between Nanch'ang, the capital, and Kiukiang, the treaty

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port, of Kiangsi. The funds for the construction works are to be provided from the reserve and emergency funds of each district and sub-prefecture of the province, and money subscribed at will by wealthy landowners and merchants of Kiangsi.

In the same journal it is stated that, in response to a circular dispatch of Viceroy Tsên to the Waiwupu and the Shangpu asking for money to construct a railway which shall join the two provincial capitals (Canton and Kueilin) of Kuangtung and Kuangsi, the above-named two Boards have sent a reply empowering Viceroy Tsên to raise funds locally, as the Central Government has no available funds for the proposed undertaking. In consequence of this, Viceroy Tsên has ordered that all civil and military officials holding office in the two Kuang provinces, are to subscribe a certain percentage of their salaries at once towards the scheme, while on the other hand the wealthy gentry and merchants of the two provinces are to be appealed to to purchase shares in the new railway.

EXHIBITIONS.

RUSSIA.

Building Exhibition at St. Petersburg.

According to an extract from the "Commercial and Industrial Gazette" (St. Petersburg), forwarded by the British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. Henry Cooke), the Russian Society of Civil Engineers have drawn up the final programme of an exhibition of the latest improvements in building technics and in the artistic decoration and arrangement of houses and apartments. The exhibition is to be held at St. Petersburg, in connection with the All-Russian Conference of Civil Engineers, in 1906. Both Russian and foreign exhibits will be accepted, divided into the following groups:—

(1) Structural Art, materials in different forms, and their application; (2) Productions of the various trades and industries in connection with building; (3) Sanitary construction; (4) Technical fire-saving arrangements; (5) Electro-technical appliances; (6) Artistic decoration of dwellings, and internal and external finish of buildings; (7) Special technical literature.

FRANCE—ALGERIA.

Establishment in London of a Sample Room of Algerian Products.

The "Bulletin de l'Office du Gouvernement Général de l'Algérie," states that a sample room for the display of Algerian products has been opened in connection with the French Chamber of Commerce in London, at Monument House, Monument Square, E.C. An official has been placed in charge of this room, to receive visitors and to correspond with vendors and purchasers.

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BOARD OF TRADE AND THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.

Appointment of Managing Committee.

The President of the Board of Trade has appointed Sir Cecil Clementi Smith, G.C.M.G., and Sir Alfred Bateman, K.C.M.G., to be a managing committee for the purpose of supervising the current work of the Imperial Institute at South Kensington on behalf of the Board of Trade, to which the management of the Institute was transferred by the Imperial Institute (Transfer) Act of 1902.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Commercial Intelligence Committee was held yesterday at the Offices of the Board of Trade in Whitehall Gardens, S.W. The members present were Sir Alfred Bateman, K.C.M.G. (Chairman); Mr. H. Llewellyn Smith, C.B. (Deputy-Chairman); Mr. Frederick Brittain, of the Sheffield Chamber of Commerce; Mr. T. Craig-Brown, of the South of Scotland Chamber of Commerce; Professor Dunstan, F.R.S.; Mr. T. W. Holderness, C.S.I.; Sir William Holland, M.P., and Mr. Algernon Law, of the Foreign Office, with Mr. G. J. Stanley, the Secretary of the Committee, and Mr. T. Worthington, Principal of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The Committee decided upon the early despatch of a commercial mission to Australia and New Zealand on lines similar to the missions which have been undertaken in recent years to South America, South Africa, Siberia, and Persia, and appointed Mr. R. J. Jeffray to conduct this mission on their behalf.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

AGENTS IN THE COLONIES.

With reference to the notice on p. 205 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 2nd February last, the Board of Trade have been notified that the following local officers in the Federated Malay States, have been charged with the duty of receiving and answering commercial enquiries which may be addressed to them either by the Commercial Intelligence Branch or by merchants and others who may seek advice:—

Perak	The Secretary to Resident.
Selangor	" "
Negri Sembilan	" "
Pahang	The Resident.

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TRADE OF CAPE COLONY IN 1904.

With reference to the statement on pp. 157-8 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 26th January, the "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" of 14th February publishes statistics showing the value of the trade of Cape Colony during the year ended 31st December, 1904, as compared with the preceding year. The following tables show the total value of the imports and exports, including transit trade in both cases, of the principal and other articles into and from the Colony during the periods above-mentioned :—

Imports into Cape Colony.*

Principal and other Articles.	Year ended 31st December, 1903.	Year ended 31st December, 1904.
	£	£
Provisions of all kinds (*includes butter, cheese, chicory, coffee, meats, sugar, and tea*) ...	4,017,000	3,223,000
Metals and metal manufactures (*includes iron, lead, machinery, hardware, wire fencing, &c.*)	3,863,000	2,510,000
Haberdashery	2,186,000	1,518,000
Corn and grain, &c. (*flour, maize, oats, wheat, and rice*)	2,511,000	1,431,000
Wood, and manufactures of (*includes furniture and cabinetware*)	2,273,000	1,273,000
Wearing apparel (*includes hats*)	1,780,000	956,000
Leather and leather manufactures (*includes boots and shoes, and saddlery and harness*)...	1,491,000	877,000
Cotton manufactures	1,750,000	804,000
Stationery (*includes books*)	913,000	653,000
Alcoholic beverages (*includes wine, beer, and spirits*)	580,000	385,000
Woollen manufactures	599,000	293,000
Carts and carriages (*includes bicycles*) ...	520,000	269,000
Animals, living	626,000	246,000
Drugs and chemicals	365,000	246,000
Soap and candles...	231,000	242,000
Tobacco of all sorts	296,000	222,000
Pipes, iron and earthen	190,000	210,000
Coal, coke, and patent fuel	295,000	204,000
Agricultural implements	450,000	196,000
Oil, mineral	136,000	165,000
Arms and ammunition (*includes dynamite and blasting compound and powder*) ...	216,000	156,000
Confectionery (*includes jams*)	202,000	143,000
Earthenware manufactures	196,000	123,000
Jewellery and plated ware (*includes clocks and watches*)	169,000	120,000
Cement	151,000	107,000
Paints and colours (*includes turpentine and varnish*)...	159,000	100,000
Bags, all sorts	108,000	91,000
Oilman stores (not edible)	85,000	73,000
Linen manufactures	94,000	47,000
All other articles of merchandise	4,974,000	3,112,000
Total merchandise ... £	31,426,000	19,995,000
Articles imported for the Colonial Government	2,336,000	1,829,000
Specie	923,000	39,000
Grand total, imports ... £	34,685,000	21,863,000

NOTE.—The official figures of imports into Cape Colony are exclusive of imports by the Imperial Government, but it may be noted that supplies for the Army are still partly contracted for on the spot.

* Exclusive of imports of diamonds and gold from States outside the Colony :—12,464,000*l.* in 1903, and 15,740,000*l.* in 1904.

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Trade of Cape Colony in 1904 (*continued*).

Exports from Cape Colony.

Principal and other Articles.	Year ended 31st December, 1903.	Year ended 31st December, 1904.
	£	£
Gold (raw)	11,980,000	15,555,000
Diamonds	5,473,000	5,521,000
Wool (washed, scoured, and in the grease) ...	1,818,000	1,794,000
Ostrich feathers	945,000	1,059,000
Hair, Angora	653,000	613,000
Copper ore	457,000	514,000
Hides and skins	469,000	476,000
All other articles of merchandise	159,000	614,000
Total merchandise ... £	21,954,000	26,176,000
Imported goods, re-exported	548,000	393,000
Specie	3,212,000	838,000
Grand total, exports ... £	25,714,000	27,407,000

CURRENCY IN GERMAN COLONIES.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Ambassador at Berlin (Sir F. Lascelles, G.C.B., G.C.M.G.), transmitting copy and translation of a Decree issued by the Imperial Chancellor on the 1st February, regulating the mode of application of the German Imperial currency in the German Colonies, with the exception of East Africa* and Kiaochou.

According to this Decree, the German mark will be the unit of currency in the Colonies as in the Empire, but with the important modification that not only thalers (as in Germany) but all other silver coins (5, 2, and 1 mark pieces) are to be legal tender to an unlimited amount.

In Germany these silver coins are merely a divisional currency, and are not legal tender beyond 20 marks, the amount of silver they contain being considerably less than half their nominal value. The German nickel and copper coins are in the Colonies to be legal tender up to 5 marks, instead of up to 1 mark as in Germany.

In these circumstances, says H.M. Ambassador, it is obvious that the value of German marks in the Colonies will be very different from their value in Europe.

The full translation of the Decree may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

* For particulars as to the currency reform in German East Africa, see "Board of Trade Journal" for 3rd November, 1904, p. 227.

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TRADE OF THE TRANSVAAL IN 1904.

With reference to the statement on pp. 303-4 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 16th February, the following tables, showing the value of the principal and other articles imported into and exported from the Transvaal during the year ended 31st December, 1904, as compared with the year 1903, have been compiled from official figures published in the "Transvaal Government Gazette" of 17th February:—

Imports.

Articles.	1903.	1904.
	£	£
Metals and manufactures of (*includes agricultural implements, hardware, iron and steel manufactures, machinery, wire rope, &c.*)	3,769,000	2,550,000
Provisions, exclusive of corn and dairy products (*includes coffee, chicory, biscuits, meats, fresh and preserved, fish, fresh and preserved, jams, sugar, tea, vegetables, fruits, condiments, salt, &c.*) ...	2,570,000	2,122,000
Apparel, haberdashery, &c. (*includes hats*)	2,491,000	1,564,000
Corn and grain (*includes flour, meal and rice*) ...	1,815,000	1,111,000
Wood and manufactures (*includes furniture*)	1,640,000	849,000
Dairy products (*includes butter and butterine, eggs, cheese, preserved milk, &c.*)	702,000	578,000
Drugs and chemicals	500,000	472,000
Leather and manufactures (*includes saddlery and boots and shoes*)	735,000	468,000
Beverages (*includes ale, spirits, wine and mineral waters*)	614,000	426,000
Live animals	569,000	359,000
Arms and ammunition (*includes dynamite and other explosives*)	130,000	291,000
Groceries and oilmen's stores (*includes oils and paints*)	398,000	289,000
Stationery and paper (*includes wall paper and books*)	364,000	277,000
Vehicles (*includes cycles and accessories*)	562,000	269,000
Soap and candles	246,000	239,000
Cotton manufactures	312,000	233,000
Tobacco, raw and manufactured (*includes cigars and cigarettes*)	212,000	203,000
Jewellery and plated ware (*includes clocks and watches*)	214,000	178,000
Tramway material...	88,000	173,000
Woollen manufactures	241,000	121,000
Cocoa, chocolate, and confectionery	100,000	77,000
Electric cable wire and fittings	65,000	77,000
Instruments, musical and other	119,000	75,000
Glass and glassware	113,000	74,000
Seeds, trees and plants	130,000	56,000
Bags (not leather or canvas)	58,000	43,000
Toys and sporting goods	57,000	43,000
Earthenware and crockery	80,000	42,000
Cement and lime	41,000	41,000
Fuse	35,000	30,000
Carpets	84,000	24,000
Coal, coke and patent fuel	9,000	23,000
Tobacconist ware	34,000	22,000
Photographic material	34,000	21,000
Linen manufactures	35,000	10,000
Other articles of merchandise	285,000	197,000
Total... ... ... £	19,451,000	13,627,000

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Trade of the Transvaal in 1904 (*continued*).

Of the total value of merchandise imported into the Transvaal during the year 1904, 4,940,000*l.* worth were sent *viâ* Cape Colony, 6,065,000*l.* worth *viâ* Natal, and 2,622,000*l.* worth *viâ* Delagoa Bay.

NOTE.—The above figures do not include free importations for Local Government or Military Stores, or Railway Material imported as "Government Stores."

Exports.

Articles.	1903.	1904.
	£	£
Gold	12,589,000	16,055,000
Diamonds	62,000	902,000
Coal	151,000	144,000
Animals, living	6,000	117,000
Wool	28,000	83,000
Tobacco of all kinds	17,000	62,000
Machinery	14,000	58,000
Skins, hides, and horns	4,000	40,000
Vehicles (*includes cycles and accessories*)	5,000	32,000
Haberdashery and millinery	7,000	29,000
Corn and grain	16,000	17,000
Other articles	71,000	232,000
Total ... ... £	12,970,000	17,771,000

COTTON SPINNING AND WEAVING IN INDIA.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of the monthly return issued by the Indian Government, showing the quantity of cotton yarn spun, and of cotton woven goods produced in each province of British India, and in the Native States, during November of each of the years 1902, 1903 and 1904, and in the eight months ended November, 1902, 1903 and 1904.

The following is a summarised statement extracted from the return, giving particulars for the eight months ended November, 1902, 1903 and 1904:—

	Eight Months ended November.		
	1902.	1903.	1904.
BRITISH INDIA, BERAR, AND NATIVE STATES.			
Cotton yarn spun ... ... Lbs.	384,408,526	404,217,492	369,118,360
Cotton woven goods produced:—			
Grey goods ... ... "	66,158,320	76,061,505	87,830,737
Grey goods ... ... = Yards	270,597,031	310,872,886	368,879,063
Figured and coloured goods Lbs.	13,640,303	16,454,972	17,663,812
Hosiery ... ... "	403,972	584,700	554,863
Miscellaneous goods ... "	963,085	1,052,185	1,564,911

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COTTON MILLS IN CHINA.

In a report to the Foreign Office (*Miscellaneous Series*, 629), the British Commercial Attaché in China (Mr. J. W. Jamieson) gives the following list of mills in China and Hong-Kong spinning yarn or weaving cloth by means of steam-driven machinery :—

Name.	Situated at	Number of	
		Spindles.	Looms.
1. Hong-Kong Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Dyeing Company, Limited	Hong-Kong	55,000	—
2. E-wo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company, Limited ...	Shanghai	50,000	—
3. International Cotton Manufacturing Company, Limited ...	Shanghai	40,000	—
4. Sey-chee Cotton Spinning Company, Limited	Shanghai	40,000	—
5. Laou Kung Mow Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company, Limited	Shanghai	32,000	—
6. Shanghai Cotton Spinning Company, Limited	Shanghai	20,000	—
7. Hua Sheng Cheong Cotton Cloth and Yarn Company	Shanghai	63,000	750
7A. Ta Sheng Cheong Cotton Cloth and Yarn Company	Shanghai	23,000	—
8. Hupei Cotton Spinning Company	Wuch'ang	80,000	—
8A. Hupei Cloth Weaving Company...	Wuch'ang	—	1,000
9. Yü-Yüan Cotton Spinning Company	Shanghai	42,000	—
10. Ta Sheng Cotton Spinning Company	T'ungchou	40,400	—
10A.* Branch of No. 10	Island of Ch'ung-ming..	15,000	—
11. Su-lun Cotton Spinning Company	Soochow	18,200	—
12. T'ung-i Cotton Spinning Company	Hangchow	18,000	—
13. T'ung-chiu-yüan Cotton Spinning Company	Ningpo	17,048	300
14. T'ung-hui-kung Cotton Spinning Company	Hsiao-shan (Shaohsing Prefecture)	16,000	—
15. Chinese New Cotton Spinning Company	Shanghai	15,000	200
16. Yeh ch'in Cotton Spinning Company	Wuhsi	10,000	—
17.* Chi-t'ai Cotton Spinning Company	T'aits'ang	25,000	—
Total...	... ...	619,648	2,250

* Proposed new installation.

Mr. Jamieson remarks that, as experience has demonstrated that in the majority of cases cotton mills in China have, from a financial point of view, far from fulfilled expectations, there is small likelihood of additional capital being embarked therein until some means of making them pay shall have been discovered.

Mr. Jamieson's report is accompanied by a map showing the positions of the several mills, as well as interesting data bearing on the general influence of the industry on imports of cotton yarn and goods as well as on the exports of raw cotton.

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TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

BRITISH INDIA.

Sugar Certificates.

The Board of Trade have been informed, through the Foreign Office, that the declaration in Forms G and H* prescribed by the Indian regulations of 15th August, 1904, for the identification of sugar imported into India, may be made, either by the exporter or by the shipper, in each of the two cases, instead of the exporter in the case of Form G, and the shipper only in the case of Form H as at present.

* Form G is a declaration by the *exporter* at a foreign port as to the origin of sugar produced in the country from which it was exported either to the United Kingdom or direct to India.

Form H is a declaration by the *shipper* at a foreign port as to the origin of sugar produced elsewhere than in the country of export.

CEYLON.

New Port of Entry.

A copy of the "Ceylon Government Gazette" for 10th February last has been received, containing a Proclamation, issued by the Governor in accordance with the provisions of Ordinance 17 of 1869, appointing the roadstead and town of Pukulam a Port for the loading and unloading of goods, from 11th February, 1905. The Proclamation also provides that ships and boats under 15 tons burthen may import or export any goods from or to parts beyond the seas at the said port, subject to the laws and regulations regarding the importation and exportation of goods at other ports in the Colony, and during the continuance of the approaching pearl fishery season.

GAMBIA.

Revised Tariff.

A copy of an Ordinance (No. 1 of 1905), dated 14th January, 1905, has been received, which consolidates and amends the laws relating to the Customs Tariff of Gambia.

The present Ordinance repeals the previous Customs Tariff Ordinances, Nos. 4 of 1899, and 16 of 1903, and it at the same time provides for the imposition of a new tariff which only slightly differs from that previously in force.

The principal alterations affect "drawbacks," and provides that instead of the full duty paid being allowed on certain articles (*e.g.*, wines, spirits, tobacco, guns, and gunpowder) exported from the Colony, a drawback of 95 per cent. shall now be allowed, under certain specified conditions, in respect of all goods entered for home consumption, and which shall not be sold within the limits of the Colony or Protectorate of Gambia, but exported to places beyond those limits.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

GAMBIA—*continued.*

The following alterations in the rates of duty on goods imported are provided for:—

Articles.	Old Tariff.	New Tariff.
Oils, cooking and edible, in bulk—		
In packages of not less than 20 gallons, per gall.	6*d.*	—
" " " 1 gallon "	—	6*d.*
Machines—		
Set in motion by hand or other power (except bicycles)	Free.	—
Sawing, blocking, or other machines used for industrial purposes	—	Free.
African produce—		
Unmanufactured	Free.	—
Manufactured and unmanufactured articles, viz., Aggidi, foofoo, shea butter, palm oil, kernel oil, corn, melon seed, raw ginger, dried pepper, raw cotton, beni seed, gum copal, gum arabic, palm kernels, ivory	—	Free.

The present Ordinance further provides for the free re-exportation of goods warehoused or transhipped, subject to payment of warehouse rent and other charges.

GRENADA.

New Customs Tariff.

The Board of Trade have received from the Government of Grenada a copy of the "Import Duties Ordinance, 1905" (No. 1 of 1905), which was assented to by the Governor of Grenada, and which came into operation as from 14th February of the present year.

The Ordinance repeals the previous Customs Tariff Ordinances Nos. 16 of 1895, 10 of 1900, and 1 of 1901, while it at the same time provides for the imposition of new duties on various articles imported into the Colony.

The principal alterations effected are as follows:—

Articles.	Rates of Import Duty.	
	Old Tariff.	New Tariff.
	s. d.	s. d.
Bread and biscuits (other than fancy biscuits) ... ... Per 100 lbs.	2 0	2 1
Carriages and other vehicles on springs ... *ad val.*	7½ %	10 %
Cement ... ... "	7½ %	1*s.*6*d.* per barrel
Coffee ... ... Per lb.	0 2	0 3
Earthenware (not being porous and unglazed) and glassware ... ... *ad val.*	7½ %	10 %
Furniture ... ... "	7½ %	10 %
Grain: Rice... ... ... Per 100 lbs.	2 0	2 1

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

GRENADA—*continued.*

Articles.	Rates of Import Duty.	
	Old Tariff.	New Tariff.
	s. d.	s. d.
Iron and steel, whether partly or wholly manufactured ... ... *ad val.*	7½ %	10 %
Jewellery, plate and plated articles ... "	7½ %	10 %
Leather unmanufactured, and all manufactures thereof ... ... "	7½ %	10 %
Malt liquor, cider, and perry ... Per gall.	0 6	0 9
Malt liquor, cider, and perry ... Per doz. qts.	1 0	1 6
Molasses and syrup... ... ...Per gall.	0 1	0 3
Musical instruments ... ... *ad val.*	7½ %	10 %
Oil: kerosene and paraffin ... ...Per gall.	0 2½	0 4
Photographic apparatus ... ... *ad val.*	7½ %	10 %
Salt, coarse ... ... Per barrel	0 2	Free.
Soap—		
Common washing or laundry	2*s.* per 100 lbs.	2*s.* 1*d.* ℔ 100 lbs.
All other kinds	2*s.* per 100 lbs.	10 % *ad. val.*
Spirits—		
Gin ... ... Per proof gall.	5 0	6 6
Rum ... ... " "	5 0	8 0
Whiskey and brandy—		
In the wood ... ... " "	6 0	9 0
In the bottle—		
Not above proof ... Per doz. qts.	6*s.* per proof gall.	15 0
Above proof ... ... Per proof gall.	6*s.* per proof gall.	9 0
Sweetened spirits, bitters, liqueurs, and cordials ... ...Per liquid gall.	5 0	8 0
Tallow and machine grease ... Per 100 lbs.	4 0	4 2
Tobacco—		
Manufactured (other than cigars and cigarettes) ... ... Per lb.	0 9	2 0
Cigars (other than "long" cigars) ... "	5 0	6*s.* per 100
Cigarettes .. .. "	4 0	5 0
Trunks and canisters ... ... *ad val.*	7½ %	10 %
Watches and clocks... ... ... "	7½ %	10 %

The following articles, previously subject to an *ad valorem* duty of 7½ per cent., are now admitted free of duty:—

Music, photographs, pictures, engravings, maps and charts, bees and appliances for bee-keeping.

MONTSERRAT.

Amended Customs Tariff.

The Board of Trade have received from the Colonial Secretary of Antigua, a copy of the "Montserrat Customs Tariff Amendment Ordinance, 1905" (No. 2 of 1905), which was assented to by the Governor on 23rd January last.

The present Ordinance alters the rates of duty imposed under

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

MONTSERRAT—*continued.*

Ordinance 1 of 1896 on the undermentioned articles imported into the Presidency of Montserrat, as follows:—

Articles.	Rates of Import Duty.	
	Old Tariff.	New Tariff.
	s. d.	s. d.
Bread and biscuit, not fancy or in tin Per barrel not exceeding 100 lbs.	1 0	1 1
Cornmeal ... ... Per barrel	2 0	2 2½
Fish—		
Dried or smoked ... ... Per cwt.	1 6	1 8
Pickled mackerel, herring and other Per barrel	2 6	3 0
Flour of wheat ... ... "	5 0	5 6
Tobacco—		
Leaf—		
If imported in packages containing not less 500 lbs. ... ...Per lb.	0 9	0 10
If imported in packages containing less than 500 lbs. ... ...Per lb.	2 0	2 2½

ST. CHRISTOPHER—NEVIS.

Free Importation of Certain Articles.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of the "The Customs Tariff Amendment Ordinance, 1904" (No. 3 of 1904) which was assented to by the Governor on 28th October, 1904.

The present Ordinance amends section 5 of Ordinance 11 of 1903 by providing for the free importation into St. Christopher-Nevis of the following additional articles:—

"Insecticides and fungicides of the kinds, sorts, and descriptions certified by the Superintendent of Agriculture as being fit and proper for use in agriculture."

The Ordinance further provides for the free importation, when not imported for sale, of machinery (including parts) and apparatus used in the manufacture of cotton.

Free Importation of Petroleum for Oil Engines.

A copy of "The Petroleum (Fuel) Ordinance 1904" (No. 5 of 1904) dated 17th December, 1904, has been received, which modifies the restrictions on the importation into St. Christopher Nevis of "inferior grades" of petroleum in consequence of the recent erection of machinery for driving cotton gins in the Presidency.

The present Ordinance provides that, notwithstanding the provisions of the Petroleum Ordinance No. 14 of 1892, any petroleum for use as fuel in or about any oil-engine erected in the Presidency, may be imported under certain conditions as laid down from time to time by the Governor-in-Council.

All such petroleum imported and landed under the provisions of the present Ordinance shall be free of import duty and wharfage dues.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

EGYPT.

Revised Valuation Tariff for Certain Oils, Colours, &c.

The Egyptian "Journal Officiel" for the 18th February, contains the following revised Valuation Tariff for use in assessing import duties on certain oils, colours, &c., which was to come into operation on the 22nd February and to remain in force until the 21st June next or until denunciation:—

	Revised Valuation per kilog. (net).†
	Millièmes.‡
Cotton-seed oil, crude ...	15
" " refined	16½
Linseed oil, raw	15½
" " boiled	17
Zinc white (1st quality) including "Vieille-Montagne"	23
" " (2nd ") " "Nouvelle-Montagne"	*ad val.*
Red lead...	18
Cochineal	*ad val.*
Coco-nut oil	"

† Duty is levied on these valuations at the rate of 8 per cent.
‡ 1,000 millièmes = £E 1 = 1*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*

NETHERLANDS.

Exemption from Duty of Acetic Acid and Collodion for certain purposes.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of translations of two Dutch Decrees, dated respectively 23rd December, 1904, and 2nd January, 1905, the former exempting from taxation acetic acid and acetyl-oxide (acetic acid anhydrid) for use in the preparation of chemical products, and the latter exempting from import duty, subject to certain conditions, collodion for use in the preparation of whalebone.

BELGIUM—GREECE.

Commercial Relations between Belgium and Greece.

With reference to previous notices which have appeared in the "Journal" on the subject of the commercial relations between Belgium and Greece, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that the term of the reciprocal application of the conventional tariff of each country to the produce of the other has been prolonged by mutual consent to the 20th September next.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

FRANCE.

Customs Treatment of Jamaican Produce Transhipped in Canada.

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 591 of the "Journal" for the 24th September, 1903, on the subject of the application of the French minimum tariff to "colonial produce" of Jamaican origin, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that the French Government have decided to admit such produce at the minimum rates, even when transhipped in Canada. Importers will, however, be required to produce, in addition to the certificate of origin, a certificate from the French Consul or from the local Customs certifying that the transhipped goods have not undergone any manipulation or change of packing or of mark, and that they have merely passed through Canada in transit.

ITALY.

Forthcoming Tariff Alterations consequent on new Treaty with Switzerland (*continued from p.* 413 *of the "Journal" for the* 2*nd March*).

Tariff No.	Description of Articles.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs. At present.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs. From 1st July.
		Lire cts.	Lire cts.
Ex 241 (*a*)	Detached parts of machinery— Of dynamo-electric machines and of electrical transformers ... ... *Note.*—The conventional duty of 25 lire is applicable also to moulded articles of asbestos for electrical machines and apparatus (bobbins, covers, tubes, discs, washers, &c.). Detached parts of dynamo-electric machines of iron or steel, weighing more than 1,000 kilogs. each, are admitted at the rate provided for complete dynamo-electric machines, under No. 240 (*i*) 1 of the Tariff.	25 00	No change.
Ex (*c*)	Of other machines— (1) Of cast or wrought iron or of steel, belonging to machines mentioned in the present Treaty ... ... *Note.*—Top-cards for carding machines, without card clothing, as also jacquard mechanism and cord looms imported separately pay duty under this number.	10 00* / 11 00†	10 00

* Of cast iron.
† Of wrought iron or of steel.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ITALY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Description of Articles.	Rate of Duty. At present.	Rate of Duty. From 1st July.
	Detached parts of machinery—*continued.*	*Per* 100 *kgs.* Lire cts.	*Per* 100 *kgs.* Lire cts.
Ex 241	Of other machines—*continued.*		
Ex (*c*)	(2) Of aluminium...	30 00	20 00
	(3) Shuttle drivers (peckers) of leather for weaving looms	11 00	No change.*
	(4) Scrapers (doctors) of steel or composition-metal for textile-printing machines, polished or not	17 25† / 100 00‡	7 00
Ex 243	Gas-meters	30 00	20 00
Ex 243	Planimeters; integrators: hydrometrical instruments (instruments for measuring the speed of water, water gauges); speed counters; phonographs, gramophones, and similar instruments....		30 00
Ex 243	Plastered splints in hermetically sealed boxes (Dr. W. Sahli's patent)	150 00	6 00
244	Card-clothing	68 00	No change.
	Note.—Cards and card-clothing are dutiable separately, even if they are presented for clearance fitted together.		
Ex 246	Gold—		
Ex (*a*)	(1) Simply rolled in bands of at least 1 mm. in thickness, or drawn into wire, round, half-round, or square, of at least 2 mm. in diameter	*Per kilog.* 2 50§	*Per kilog.* Free
	(2) Simply rolled in bands of ½ mm. or more but less than 1 mm. in thickness, or drawn into wire, round, half-round, or square, of a diameter of 1 mm. or more, but less than 2 mm.	10 00	5 00
Ex 247	Silver—		
Ex (*b*)	(1) Simply rolled in bands of at least 1 mm. in thickness or drawn into wire, round, half-round, or square, of at least 2 mm. in diameter ...	2 50§	Free
	(2) Simply rolled in bands of ½ mm. or more, but less than 1 mm. in thickness, or drawn into wire, round, half-round, or square, of a diameter of 1 mm. or more, but less than 2 mm.	5 00	2 50
250	Jewellery—		
(*a*)	Of gold—	*Per hectogr.*	*Per hectogr.*
	(1) Chains, including chain-bracelets..	2 00‖	1 00
	(2) Other	6 00	3 00

* The duty is now conventionalised.

† Steel. ‡ Composition-metal.

§ The existing duty of 2 lire 50 cents per kilog. is applicable to *round* wire only; other wire of this description pays 10 lire for gold, and 5 lire for silver.

‖ Conventional duty for chains. Chains with pendants or clasps are at present not entitled to conventional treatment, unless the importer permits the pendants, &c., to be detached and tariffed separately (at 6 lire per hectog.).

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ITALY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Description of Articles.	Rate of Duty. At present.	Rate of Duty. From 1st July.
Ex 251 (*a*)	Clocks and watches—	Lire cts.	Lire cts.
	Watches—	*Each.*	
	(1) In gold cases	1 00	No change.
	(2) In cases of any other metal [even gilt*]	0 50	"
	Notes.—Clocks or watches attached to bracelets, albums, walking-sticks, umbrellas, paper-weights, portfolios, tablets, or other articles, are dutiable at the appropriate rate, independently of the duty applicable to the articles to which they are attached; and are classified as watches or as clocks according as the articles to which they are attached are intended for personal use (*e.g.*, bracelets, walking-sticks, umbrellas, portfolios) or for other purposes. The duty on the said articles is imposed without deduction of the weight of the watch or clock. [Agrees with the existing practice.]		
	Cardboard or wooden boxes in which watches are packed are admitted free of duty.		
	Time-pieces in the form of watches for carriages or cycles, or intended to be used in cases or on supports, as clocks, are classified as clocks when they have a dial exceeding 10 cm. (4 inches) in diameter: the cases or supports are dutiable separately. Time-pieces of this description having a diameter of 10 cm. or less are dutiable as watches.	*Each.*	
Ex (*b*) and (*c*)	Electric clocks and watches, except those dutiable under No. 251 (*a*)	5 00† in addition to the duty on the case 1 50‡	*Per* 100 *kilogs.* 50 00
	Note.—The cases, if dutiable at a higher rate (than 50 lire per 100 kilogs.) are dutiable separately.		
252	Musical boxes—	*Each.*	*Per* 100 *kgs.*
(*a*)	With keys	1 00	35 00
(*b*)	Other (toy musical boxes with cranks, or with disks)		25 00
Ex 253 (*a*)	Watch movements	0 25	No change.
		Per 100 *kgs.*	
Ex 254	Clock and watch fittings	50 00	No change.

* Added in new Treaty.

† Table, wall, or pendulum clocks.

‡ Alarm clocks not striking the hours.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ITALY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Description of Articles.	Rate of Duty. At present.	Rate of Duty. From 1st July.
		Lire cts. *Per* 100 *kgs.*	Lire cts. *Per* 100 *kgs.*
Ex 254	Detached parts of musical boxes	100 00	35 00
Ad 294 (*a*) 2	*Note.*—Sizing (*colladin*) for the manufacture of paper is admitted at a duty of...	6 00	No change.
Ad 303	*Note.*—In virtue of the new Treaty, *sauerkraut* (including *sauerkraut* with radishes) proceeding from the cantons of Zurich, Bern, Basel (Town or District), St. Gall, Aargau, or Ticino, with certificates of origin, is admitted at the reduced rate of	20 00* *Each.*	2 00 *Each.*
315	Cows	12 00	10 00
316	Bullocks and steers (including young heifers and young bullocks) ... ... *Note.*—Young cattle which have not lost more than four milk teeth are included under this heading.	8 00	No change. †
317	Calves ... ... *Note.*—Calves which still retain all their milk teeth are included under this heading.	8 00	" †
		Per 100 *kgs.*	*Per* 100 *kgs.*
Ex 322	Liquid condiments without sugar, for soup, in receptacles of 25 kilogs. or more ("*Maggi*" extract and the like)	38 00‡	25 00
Ex 322	Soups and meat extracts, without sugar, condensed, and with salt not exceeding 50 per cent. ("*Maggi*" and similar brands).	28 00§	20 00
Ex 328	Milk and cream, fresh, sterilised or peptonised, without the addition of other substances, even imported in bottles or boxes ... ... *Note.*—Bottles containing milk are temporarily admitted free of duty if re-exported within a period not exceeding six months.	Free.‖	Free.
329	Extract of milk, without added sugar ... *Note.*—Desiccated milk, without sugar, is dutiable at this rate.	10 00	5 00
331	Cheese—		
(*a*)	Hard—		
	(1) Emmenthal (including "small Bernese" and "Bernesine"), Gruyère (Fribourg *de rayon et de consommation*); Saanen; Sbrinz and other Spalen; *formaggio dolce, formaggio della paglia* ... ... *Note.*—The above descriptions refer to differences of manufacture and not necessarily to places of production.	11 00	4 00
	(2) Other...	11 00	10 00
(*b*)	Soft	11 00	15 00

* 2 lire for *sauerkraut* from *the Tyrol* (in the Treaty with *Austria-Hungary*).
† The duty is now conventionalised.
‡ In earthenware, majolica, porcelain, or glass jars.
§ In other receptacles.
‖ At present, cream, even sterilised, is dutiable as butter (12 lire 50 cts. per 100 kilogs.).

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ITALY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Description of Articles.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs. At present.	Rate of Duty per 100 kilogs. From 1st July.
		Lire. cts.	Lire. cts.
Ex 359 (*a*)	Electric wires and cables— Composed of one or more metallic conductors covered with textile materials and varnish, even with gutta-percha and india-rubber	60 00	50 00
	EXPORT DUTIES.		
Ex 154 (*a*)	Silk waste— Raw— (1) Flock silk (waste from reeling cocoons), raw floss silk, and double-cocoon floss	14 00	No change.
	(2) Other	8 80	"
	All other articles (except untreated bones) not subject to export duties under the Tariff of the 24th November, 1895... ...	Free.	Free.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Drawback on Flour made from mixed American and Foreign Wheat.

A recent Circular of the United States Treasury Department announces that home manufacturers of flour from imported wheat mixed with domestic wheat are entitled to drawback on the exportation of such flour in respect of the duty paid on the imported wheat used. Manufacturers of such flour for export are required to keep a detailed record of the quantity and value of domestic and imported wheat used, and of the flour and by-products produced therefrom.

The duty paid on the imported wheat used in the manufacture of the flour is to be divided between the several grades or brands of flour and the several by-products in proportion to their value at the time and place of manufacture, and drawback of the duty paid, less the legal retention of 1 per cent., is to be allowed accordingly on the exportation of the flour.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

New Valuation Tariff: Principal Modifications (*continued from p. 418 of the "Journal" for the 2nd March.*)

(NOTE.—New classifications are indicated by *italic* type.)

No. in New Valuation Tariff.	Articles.	Unit.	Valuation. Former.	Valuation. Present.	Duty.
	XVI.—TISSUES.		Pesos.	Pesos.	
	Carpets—				
1634	Cut pile of all kinds ...	Kilog.	2·25	2·00	*25 % *ad val.*
1635	Curled pile, pure or mixed wool	"	1·00	0·90	*25 % "
1636	Pile of *pita* or other fibres...	"	0·50	0·40	25 % "
	Table covers—				
1639	Of jute, cotton, or a mixture of these fibres, with or without metallic threads, plain	"	1·00	0·90	25 % "
1640	The same, plushy	"	1·50	1·40	25 % "
1641	The same, *containing up to 39 % of wool*	"	1·80	1·50	25 % "
1642	The same, *containing up to 60 % of wool*	"	1·80	2·00	†35 % "
1643	The same, *of pure wool* ...	"	1·80	2·50	†35 % "
	NOTE.—*For table covers with appliqué work, embroidery, or trimming, the valuation is increased by 30 per cent.*				
1646	Quilts, crochet or imitations...	"	2·50	2·00	25 % "
	Curtains—				
1650	*Containing up to 39 % of wool*	"	Not stated	2·00	25 % "
1651	*Containing up to 60 % of wool*	"	"	2·50	†35 % "
1652	*Of pure wool*	"	"	3·00	†35 % "
	NOTE.—*For curtains with appliqué work, embroidery, or trimming, the valuation is increased by 30 per cent.*				
	Table cloths and napkins—				
1672	Of pure or mixed linen, hemmed ("Vainillados")	"	3·00	2·50	25 % "
1673	The same, ravelled, or with open designs	"	3·00‡	4.00	50 % "
	The same, embroidered ...	"	5·00		
	The same, with lace ...	"	Not stated		
1675	Of cotton, hemmed ("Vainillados") ...	"	"	1·00	25 % "
1676	Of cotton, *ravelled or with open designs*	"	"	1·40	25 % "
1677	The same, embroidered ...	"	3·00	2·00	50 % "
	Handkerchiefs of cotton up to 60 c.m.—				
1681	*Hemmed* ("Vainillados")	"	2·50	2·30	25 % "
1682	*Not hemmed* ...	"		2·00	25 % "
1683	Handkerchiefs of cotton, *unhemmed*, of more than 60 c.m., including those called "yerbas," handkerchiefs of bombazine, "bordato," and the like	"	1·00§	1·00	25 % "

* Formerly 35 per cent. † Formerly 25 per cent.
‡ Duty 25 % *ad val.*
§ Coloured handkerchiefs called "yerbas," bombazine, &c.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC—*continued.*

No. in New Valuation Tariff.	Articles.	Unit.	Valuation. Former.	Valuation. Present.	Duty.
			Pesos.	Pesos.	
1687	Handkerchiefs of linen, *embroidered*	Kilog.	Not stated	10·00	25 % *ad val.*
	Tissues—				
	Of cotton—				
1700	Unbleached, called bombazine	"	0·75	0·70	25 % "
1701	Canvas (*lona*) white ...	"	0·55	0·60	25 % "
1703	Velveteen, plush or velvet	"	1·50	1·40	25 % "
1704	Corduroy	"	Not stated	1·00	25 % "
	Tissues—				
	Of cotton—				
1708	Embroidery, checkered, or open worked, weighing up to 200 grammes per sq. metre. (This number includes spotty and other similar tissues embroidered on the Jacquard loom) ...	"	2·00	1·50	25 % "
1714	Printed, weighing more than 80 grammes per sq. metre	"	1·00	0·90	25 % "
1716	Coloured, weighing more than 80 and up to 180 grammes, inclusive, per sq. metre	"	1·00	0·90	25 % "
1718	With wool, *called plush*...	"	1·20	1·60	25 % "
	Of linen, pure or mixed—				
1723	Canvas	"	0·60	0·55	25 % "
1724	Brins called "Russians," linings, "Osnaburgs," and those for artists' canvas and "*repasadores*"	"	0·80	0·70	25 % "
1726	White, for strengthening shirt fronts	"	1·40	1·20	25 % "
	Of wool—				
1735	Pure or mixed, for horse clothing	"	1·50	1·20	35 % "
1739	Pure or mixed, common, blue or grey, for the military...	"	1·50	1·30	35 % "
1740	Mixed, not specially mentioned, weighing per sq. metre up to 400 grammes, inclusive ...	"	2·00	1·80	35 % "
1741	The same, weighing more than 400 grammes per sq. metre	"	1·60	1·50	35 % "
	Of jute or *pita*—				
1758	*Special, for horse clothing, with or without flock wool, not mentioned under any other number*	"	Not stated	0·45	25 % "
1759	*Plush, even containing cotton in any proportion*	"	"	1·20	25 % "
	Veils, mantles, and hoods—				
1769	Of pure or ~~mixed silk, plain~~ or spotted, embroidered ...	"	18·00	15·00	40 % "

(*To be continued*).

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SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—NEW SOUTH WALES.

Railway Statistics.

The report of the New South Wales Railway Commissioners for the quarter ended 31st December, 1904, shows that the number of miles open for traffic was 3,280, and the revenue for the quarter 1,021,039*l.*, as compared with 950,249*l.* for the corresponding quarter of the previous year. Expenditure shows a decrease of 14,502*l.*, the net result being an improvement to the extent of 85,292*l.*, an evidence of the improved condition of the country, and the care exercised in the management of the lines. The increase was largely due to the carriage of agricultural produce, which yielded 25,364*l.*, while the direct pastoral traffic, wool and live stock, contributed 26,069*l.*

The agricultural industry is making great strides in New South Wales, and the present proposals of the Government to throw open additional areas for closer settlement will be the means of largely increasing the output in the near future. The area under crop for wheat alone is estimated at 1,584,975 acres, and is nearly all within convenient distance of a railway.

The wool traffic shows an increase of 14,650*l.*, the number of bales carried, compared with the previous season, being an excess of 123,247 bales. Pastoralists are endeavouring to improve the quality and quantity of each fleece, and during the last ten years the average weight of the fleeces has shown an appreciable increase.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

New Navigation Act.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of the new Navigation Act (No. 59 of 1904) for Western Australia, which received the Royal assent on the 24th December last. This Act, which regulates shipping within the navigable waters of Western Australia, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

JAMAICA.

Closing of Alligator Pond as a Port of Entry.

A despatch has been received at the Colonial Office from the Governor of Jamaica (Sir J. A. Swettenham) reporting that the port of Alligator Pond will be closed as a port of entry from 1st June next. The closing of the port will affect goods shipped to arrive on or after that date.

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Shipping and Transport.

RUSSIA.

Railways.

The British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. Henry Cooke) reports that according to the "Commercial and Industrial Gazette" (St. Petersburg), on 1st January, 1905, the total length of Russian railways reached 56,357 versts (37,571 miles), of which 1,028 versts (685 miles) were opened for public traffic during 1904.

4,715 versts of Crown lines are under construction, including the Orenburg-Tashkent line, which was to commence temporary traffic on 1st January. The Circum-Baikal (Baikal to Tankhoi 190 versts) line, lately opened for traffic, and now at the disposition of the military authorities, belongs to the same category.

The following are under construction, and may possibly be opened for temporary traffic during 1905:—The Northern Railway (Viatka-Vologda—St. Petersburg, 1,067 versts), the Bologoe-Siedlets line (1,083 versts), the Moscow circle line (51 versts), and various small lines under construction by private enterprise (1,138 versts), mostly in the nature of branches or off-shoots.

Verst = ·662 of a mile.

BELGIUM.

Shipping at Antwerp.

The report on the shipping and navigation of the port of Antwerp by H.M. Consul-General there (Mr. E. C. Hertslet), contains a series of annexes embodying information on the following subjects, viz.: Shipping statistics; regular steamship lines trading to Antwerp; port and dry dock charges; pilotage charges on the Scheldt; docks and basins of the port; and a coloured map of the port.

The report itself (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,327) may be obtained at a cost of 7½*d.* from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C.

BELGIUM: UNITED KINGDOM.

S.S. Service between Ghent and Dublin and Belfast.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp (Mr. E. C. Hertslet) reporting that a steamship service has been inaugurated between Ghent and Dublin and Belfast. The sailings are to take place every three weeks.

FRENCH WEST AFRICA.

Rates on Conakry-Niger Railway.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul at Dakar (Captain C. F. Cromie), forwarding a list of the passenger and goods rates which have been fixed for the first section of the Conakry-Niger Railway, now open to traffic.

The list may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

CANADA.

New Asbestos Deposits.

A recent report by the United States Consul at Three Rivers, Quebec, announces the discovery of good samples of asbestos in the country west of Lake St. John, Province of Quebec. Asbestos has hitherto been an important output from the district around Victoriaville.

Production of Pig-iron in 1904.

The "Bulletin" for 1st March of the American Iron and Steel Association states that the Association has received direct from the manufacturers the statistics of the production of all kinds of pig-iron in Canada in the calendar year 1904. They show an increase of 5,524 tons, or a little over 2 per cent., as compared with 1903, but a decrease of 48,615 tons as compared with 1902.

The total production in 1904 amounted to 270,942 tons, as compared with 265,418 tons in 1903, and 319,557 tons in 1902. In the first half of 1904 the production was 120,643 tons, and in the second half it was 150,299 tons, an increase of 29,656 tons. Of the total production in 1904, 251,671 tons were made with coke and 19,271 tons with charcoal. About one-fourth of the total production was basic pig-iron, namely, 70,133 tons. The production of Bessemer pig-iron, all made in the last half of the year, was 26,016 tons. Spiegeleisen and ferro-manganese have not been made since 1899.

The following table gives the total production of all kinds of pig-iron in Canada from 1900 to 1904:—

Year.	Quantity.
	Tons.
1900	86,090
1901	244,976
1902	319,557
1903	265,418
1904	270,942

The unsold stocks of pig iron in Canada on 31st December, 1904, amounted to 35,119 tons.

On 31st December, 1904, Canada had 15 completed blast furnaces, of which 8 were in blast and 7 were idle. Of this total, 10 were equipped to use coke for fuel and 5 to use charcoal. In addition, 3 coke furnaces were partly erected on 31st December, but work on the furnaces had been suspended some time ago.

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—NEW SOUTH WALES.

Proposed Establishment of Iron Works.

The "Queensland Government Mining Journal" for January announces that the Premier of New South Wales is taking some steps in the direction of establishing ironworks in that State. Reports on the subject have been furnished by the Public Works Department and the Mines Department, the former giving particulars of the quantity of iron required each year in connection with public works, and the latter supplying data as to available supplies of iron ore. It is explained that the present movement has nothing whatever to do with an offer already made to supply steel and iron to the Railway Commissioners for a term of five years at schedule rates. The Minister for Works and the Minister for Mines have gone into the matter, and the officers of the Public Works Department have been instructed to prepare conditions and specifications with a view of inviting offers for the establishment of works. The Premier states that he considers the Government to be in a fair way of arriving at a satisfactory solution of a difficult problem.

FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

Tin Exports in 1904.

The following statement, showing the weight of tin and tin ore (tin exported in the form of ore having been taken at 68 per cent.* of the gross weight of the ore) exported from the Federated Malay States during the year 1904, with corresponding figures for the preceding year, is taken from the "Selangor Government Gazette" of the 3rd February :—

—	1903.			1904.		
	Tin.	Tin exported in the form of Ore.	Total.	Tin.	Tin exported in the form of Ore.	Total.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Perak	162,935	273,308	436,243	147,397	296,110	443,507
Selangor	133,384	150,281	283,665	120,152	180,261	300,413
Negri Sembilan ...	43,009	42,456	85,465	49,810	35,039	84,849
Pahang	6,161	19,114	25,275	5,686	21,783	27,469
Total ...	345,489	485,159	830,648	323,045	533,193	856,238

NOTE.—1 picul = 133⅓ lbs.
* 70 per cent. from 1st November, 1904.

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

RUSSIA.

Bureau at Paris of French and Belgian Mineral Undertakings in Russia.

According to the British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. Henry Cooke) the "Commercial and Industrial Gazette" of St. Petersburg, recently published certain correspondence from Paris reporting the formation of a Special Committee in the latter city representative of French and Belgian mineral and metallurgical undertakings operating in Russia. The immediate object of this Committee is to constitute a central bureau, able to give first hand information as to the undertakings in Russia, as also concerning laws, regulations, &c., affecting these industries. The Committee have already published 14 circulars devoted to matters connected with mining and metallurgy in Russia, statistics, legislation, &c.

YARNS AND TEXTILES.

ITALY.

Proposed Cotton Spinning and Dyeing Establishment in Palermo.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul at Palermo (Mr. S. J. A Churchill), reporting that an Italian firm have formed a company for the erection of a cotton spinning and dyeing establishment in that city.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Ready-made Clothing Industry of Baltimore.

In his report for 1904, the Acting British Consul at Baltimore (Mr. A. G. Coates) states that the manufacture of ready-made clothing is one of the chief industries of that city. The business amounts to 4,000,000*l.* annually and gives employment to upwards of 50,000 persons.

Notwithstanding the great fire, which destroyed many important clothing manufactories, this business was on the whole more flourishing than in 1903. It was especially active during the autumn. The prosperity of the Southern States resulted in large purchases from that part of the country. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,326.)

Exports of Cotton Goods.

The following statement, showing the exports of cotton goods (domestic manufacture) from the United States to various countries during the months of January, 1904 and 1905, has been compiled from the official statistics issued by the United States Government:—

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Yarns and Textiles.

To	Month of January. 1904.	1905.
Coloured and uncoloured cloths—	Yards.	Yards.
United Kingdom	175,189	411,083
France	—	—
Germany	16,152	3,902
Other Europe	177,581	66,605
British North America	750,584	812,221
Central America and British Honduras	1,751,768	3,259,965
Mexico	169,440	349,204
Cuba	349,114	912,550
Other West Indies and Bermuda	1,530,542	2,240,730
Argentina	74,098	270,488
Brazil	680,072	1,107,978
Chile	1,011,802	1,422,840
Colombia	1,352,647	2,064,094
Venezuela	739,756	729,106
Other South America	482,392	461,738
Chinese Empire	8,906,813	28,480,261
British East Indies	1,280,264	1,142,621
Hong-Kong	5,877	59,046
Japan	3,227	1,736,507
British Australasia	544,258	504,479
Philippine Islands	349,813	1,344,500
Other Asia and Oceania	3,350,270	505,615
British Africa	809,229	147,728
All other Africa	60,106	76,422
Total quantity ... ... Yards	24,570,994	48,139,683
Total value ... ... Dols.	1,430,407	2,866,901
Other cotton goods—	Dollars.	Dollars.
United Kingdom	54,961	69,292
Belgium	2,964	6,995
France	903	1,845
Germany	84,543	39,468
Netherlands	4,457	2,078
Other Europe	8,913	2,487
British North America	186,410	160,574
Central America and British Honduras	42,182	59,740
Mexico	38,388	43,184
Cuba	20,034	18,918
Other West Indies and Bermuda	16,201	15,212
Argentina	4,259	26,208
Brazil	5,086	6,680
Chile	1,421	1,066
Colombia	5,925	6,220
Venezuela	6,049	950
Other South America	2,461	2,901
Chinese Empire	1,060	5,200
British East Indies	—	599
Hong-Kong	125	513
British Australasia	42,017	25,928
Philippine Islands	1,609	10,375
Other Asia and Oceania	5,438	4,285
British Africa	13,320	14,383
All other Africa	797	228
Other countries	—	373
Total value ... ... Dols.	549,473	525,702
Grand total value of all cotton goods exported...	1,979,880	3,392,603

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AGRICULTURE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Corn Prices.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 11th March, 1905, were as follow:—

Wheat	30*s.* 9*d.*
Barley	25*s.* 2*d.*
Oats	16*s.* 10*d.*

For further particulars see p. 524.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

A statement is published on p. 525, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 11th March, 1905, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1904.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Cotton Cultivation.

In a communication which has been received at the Board of Trade from the Agent-General for South Australia, he states that there are very large areas of land eminently suitable for cotton cultivation in the northern territory of that colony. The South Australian Legislature has recently passed a "Cotton Growing Act," under the provisions of which land can be secured on specially favourable conditions for the purpose of cultivating cotton and other tropical products.

A copy of the Act referred to, and of a report from the British Cotton Growing Association upon samples of nine species of cotton grown in South Australia may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

Native Crops.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Commissioner and Consul-General at Mombasa (Sir D. Stewart) enclosing the following leaflet issued by the Director of Agriculture on the native crops of the East Africa Protectorate:—

"Literature on East African agriculture scarcely exists, and it is now proposed to issue occasional leaflets dealing exclusively with facts interesting to the agricultural and general community of this country. It is particularly desirable that the native crops of the country should receive their full share of attention, and towards

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Agriculture.

this end the present leaflet gives a list* of some of the native names of the generally-cultivated crops. The list cannot be regarded as final, as it only records the crops observed. The native names are probably at times irregularly spelt, but this can be corrected only by Europeans intimately conversant with the various languages. Another difficulty has been in the confusion of different names submitted by different natives; these are probable local variations. The main object, however, is little affected by these probable errors, the central idea being to connect the native crops with an unchangeable botanical label. Even the English names of many of the crops are useless as a means of identification.

"Where a crop does not exist in certain localities there is, naturally, no native name, and this accounts for many of the blanks in the accompanying list. Where material botanical indication could not be found the crop has been omitted. Hence this list will doubtless need revision, and it is hoped that linguistic authorities will help to correct and add to its usefulness."

* This List may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

Cattle Trade in 1904.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul at Trieste (Mr. H. L. Churchill), reporting that the exportation of cattle from Austria-Hungary during 1904 amounted to 290,028 head, of the value of 4,003,459*l.*, as compared with 379,124 head, valued at 4,771,030*l.*, in 1903. Of the whole quantity, more than half went to Germany; the remainder going principally to Switzerland, Italy, France and Roumania. The importation of cattle was almost the same as in 1903, viz., 288,953 head, of the value of 1,582,862*l.* Cattle are principally imported into Austria-Hungary from Servia and Montenegro. The import of fresh and prepared meat in 1904 was a little less than in 1903.

BRAZIL.

Exports of Coffee in 1904.

The following particulars of the exports of coffee from Brazil in 1904, as compared with the two preceding years, are taken from a despatch received at the Foreign Office from the Acting British Consul-General at Rio de Janeiro (Mr. C. B. Rhind):—

—	Amount.	Value.
	Bags.	£
1902	13,157,383	20,326,954
1903	12,927,239	19,076,277
1904	10,024,536	19,957,569

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MISCELLANEOUS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Cotton Statistics.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 9th March, 1905, was 50,001, and the number imported during the 10 weeks ended the 9th March was 974,670 (including 596 bales British West African and 244 bales British West Indian). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 9th March, 1905, 4,404 bales, and for the 10 weeks, 113,270 (including 16 bales British West African).

For further details see p. 524.

Alien Immigration.

The number of aliens arriving at ports in the United Kingdom during February, 1905, was 15,621, and during the two months ended 28th February, 28,172. Detailed statistics of alien immigration will be found on p. 526.

Fishery Statistics, February, 1905.

The following statement shows the quantity and value of fish landed on the English and Welsh, Scotch, and Irish Coasts during the month and two months ended 28th February, 1905, compared with the corresponding periods of the year 1904:—

—	Month of February.				Two Months ended February.			
	1905.		*1904.*		1905.		*1904.*	
	Quantity.	Value.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	Quantity.	Value.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
England and Wales—	Cwts.	£	*Cwts.*	*£*	Cwts.	£	*Cwts.*	*£*
Fish, excluding shell fish	530,009	493,447	*531,886*	*483,674*	1,007,012	945,840	*1,080,168*	*919,482*
Shell fish	—	19,115	—	*19,308*	—	38,204	—	*39,116*
Total Value ...	—	512,562	—	*502,982*	—	984,044	—	*958,598*
Scotland—								
Fish, excluding shell fish	486,274	162,661	*484,599*	*173,880*	716,602	300,063	*869,703*	*329,492*
Shell fish	—	3,829	—	*4,949*	—	8,060	—	*9,435*
Total Value ...	—	166,490	—	*178,829*	—	308,123	—	*338,927*
Ireland—								
Fish, excluding shell fish	15,884	11,485	*17,894*	*11,252*	33,952	21,420	*41,910*	*22,889*
Shell fish	—	748	—	*510*	—	1,383	—	*1,970*
Total Value ...	—	12,233	—	*11,762*	—	22,803	—	*23,859*

NOTE.—All the above figures are subject to correction in the annual returns.

Inspectors of Weights and Measures.

The following persons nominated by a Local Authority to the post of Inspector of Weights and Measures have during the month of February, 1905, passed the examination provided for in the 8th section of the Weights and Measures Act, 1904:—F. J. Cope, Worcestershire; A. K. Mayall, Oldham; W. W. Skelton, Leeds.

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Miscellaneous.

RUSSIA.

Proposed Establishment of Enquiry Bureaus.

In an extract from the "Commercial and Industrial Gazette" (St. Petersburg), forwarded by the British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. Henry Cooke), it is stated that proposals will shortly be introduced into the State Council regulating the establishment in Russia of inquiry bureaus. At present no legislation exists authorising the opening or regulating the procedure of offices of this kind, while, continues the Journal above-mentioned, "the needs of home and foreign trade more and more demonstrate the necessity of institutions of this description, whose aim would be to furnish reliable information as to the standing and credit of both Russian and foreign firms."

Mr. Cooke adds that this question has often been discussed in the Russian Press, the want of such properly organised bureaus being generally felt; Russians, and firms abroad, when seeking information as to the standing of Russian firms, often applying to a well-known Berlin Bureau, or to Russian sources, supplying in secret such information, but having no legal status.

PANAMA.

Establishment of a Special Currency.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul at Panamá (Mr. C. Mallet) forwarding translation of a Presidential Decree, promulgated on the 5th January, relative to the conversion of the Colombian silver currency formerly in circulation in the Republic of Panamá for the new "Balboa" coinage, details regarding which were published on p. 277 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 11th August, 1904.

The conversion was to take place within 30 days from the date of the Decree, the exchange having been fixed at 100 balboas for 212·50 cents Colombian silver currency. Sixty legal working days is the time limit allowed by law for the conversion to be completed, after which period Colombian silver will no longer be legal tender in the Republic.

Three million dollars of the new currency have been coined in the United States Government Mint at Philadelphia; of this sum 1,470,000 dols. had arrived in Panamá at the date of the despatch (7th January).

The complete translation of the Decree may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the Week and 10 Weeks ended 9th March, 1905.

—	Week ended 9th Mar., 1905.	10 Weeks ended 9th Mar., 1905.	Week ended 9th Mar., 1905.	10 Weeks ended 9th Mar., 1905.
	Imports. (Bales.)		Exports. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American	37,019	809,518	2,726	81,151
Brazilian	2,133	11,305	—	328
East Indian	—	13,937	255	4,357
Egyptian	10,726	122,179	1,373	26,859
Miscellaneous	123	17,731*	50	575†
Total	50,001	974,670	4,404	113,270

* Including 596 bales British West African and 244 bales British West Indian.
† Including 16 bales British West African.

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 11th March, 1905, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

—	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 11th March, 1905	30	9	25	2	16	10
Corresponding week in—						
1898	35	6	28	0	17	10
1899	25	10	26	3	16	10
1900	25	10	24	6	16	11
1901	25	9	25	1	17	7
1902	27	1	26	6	20	6
1903	25	1	22	10	17	0
1904	29	1	22	5	16	8

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

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Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 11th March, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

—		Week ended 11th Mar., 1905.	*Corresponding Week in 1904.*
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number.	12,223	*8,049*
Sheep and lambs	"	7,603	*6,110*
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	171	*545*
Fresh Meat :—			
Beef	Cwts.	77,459	*99,260*
Mutton	"	15,162	*94,918*
Pork	"	14,654	*16,674*
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Cwts.	124,470	*96,478*
Beef	"	4,600	*3,764*
Hams	"	25,854	*12,901*
Pork	"	4,835	*4,942*
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ...	"	16,391	*13,806*
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting...	"	14,189	*16,640*
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwts.	58,776	*107,831*
Margarine	"	22,397	*20,745*
Cheese	"	16,210	*39,704*
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	—
" cream	"	39	*151*
" condensed	"	19,141	*19,593*
" preserved, other kinds...	"	17	*353*
Eggs	Grt. Hundr.	364,526	*571,042*
Poultry	Value £	28,371	*42,972*
Game	"	2,149	*3,147*
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	Cwts.	4,025	*3,183*
Lard	"	51,590	*31,099*
Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—			
Wheat	Cwts.	2,364,200	*1,805,200*
Wheat meal and flour	"	172,800	*399,850*
Barley	"	802,500	*648,300*
Oats	"	324,400	*483,300*
Peas	"	48,480	*40,970*
Beans	"	43,100	*145,470*
Maize or Indian corn	"	972,600	*734,800*
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Cwts.	58,352	*121,724*
Apricots and peaches	"	41	*196*
Bananas	Bunches.	79,731	*37,327*
Cherries	Cwts.	—	—
Currants...	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	—	—
Grapes	"	193	*161*
Lemons	"	15,355	*25,408*
Oranges	"	228,634	*206,131*
Pears	"	135	*250*
Plums	"	76	*129*
Strawberries	"	—	—
Unenumerated	"	583	*2,446*
Hay...	Tons.	1,500	*2,179*
Straw	"	2,272	*2,471*
Moss Litter*	"	2,078	—
Hops	Cwts.	1,045	*1,690*
Locust Beans	"	7,272	*1,960*
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels.	48,347	*113,207*
Potatoes	Cwts.	19,889	*219,224*
Tomatoes	"	38,756	*14,596*
Unenumerated	Value £	9,377	*9,544*
Vegetables, dried	Cwts.	1,914	*878*
Preserved by canning...	"	8,809	*4,417*

* Not shown in 1904.

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Alien Immigration—February.

Statement showing the Number of **Alien** Passengers that **Arrived** from the Continent (whether in transit or not) at Ports in the **United Kingdom** during the Month and Two Months ending 28th February, 1905, compared with the corresponding period of the previous Year.

(Compiled from the Alien Lists received by the Customs under Act 6 Will. 4, c. 11, sec. 2.)

Ports of Arrival in United Kingdom.	CONTINENTAL PORTS OF EMBARKATION.															
	Hamburg, Bremen, and Bremerhaven.		Rotterdam, Amsterdam, and Antwerp.		Scandinavian Ports.		Finnish Ports.		Libau.		Dieppe.		Other Continental Ports.		Total.	
	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*
	(i.) Month of February.															
London ...	1,457	*1,336*	1,060	*755*	66	*98*	...	...	389	*249*	...	...	351	*121*	3,323	*2,559*
Grimsby ...	814	*502*	647	*1,399*	1,091	*249*	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	2,555	*2,150*
Harwich ...	...	...	...	...	933	*575*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	933	*575*
Hull	225	*348*	380	*452*	3,145	*1,690*	1,720	*336*	392	*354*	...	...	19	*45*	5,881	*2,625*
Tyne Ports ...	32	*13*	35	*6*	638	*453*	...	*38*	...	...	...	...	8	...	713	*510*
Leith ...	9	*53*	114	*65*	38	*27*	...	...	...	...	...	...	25	*28*	186	*173*
Newhaven ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	736	*759*	...	...	736	*759*
Other Ports ..	22	*58*	199	*202*	180	*129*	...	...	...	...	...	...	893	*574*	1,294	*957*
Total ...	2,559	*2,304*	2,435	*2,879*	6,091	*2,621*	1,720	*374*	781	*603*	736	*759*	1,299	*768*	15,621	*10,305*
	(ii.) Months of January and February.															
London ...	3,358	*2,281*	2,422	*1,366*	169	*208*	...	...	794	*636*	...	...	655	*231*	7,398	*4,772*
Grimsby ...	1,629	*881*	1,214	*2,096*	1,367	*352*	...	...	...	...	...	*1*	3	...	4,213	*3,330*
Harwich ...	...	...	...	...	1,359	*850*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,359	*850*
Hull	431	*594*	670	*830*	4,273	*1,510*	4,175	542	519	*457*	...	...	28	*69*	10,096	*4,002*
Tyne Ports ...	54	*38*	50	*67*	1,111	*861*	...	*80*	...	...	...	...	12	*4*	1,227	*1,050*
Leith ...	34	*93*	188	*91*	65	*60*	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	*36*	337	*280*
Newhaven ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,502	*1,540*	...	...	1,502	*1,540*
Other Ports ..	26	*90*	322	*430*	266	*219*	...	*1*	...	...	...	...	1,426	*1,042*	2,040	*1,775*
Total ...	5,532	*3,977*	4,866	*4,880*	8,610	*4,053*	4,175	*623*	1,313	*1,093*	1,502	*1,541*	2,174	*1,382*	28,172	*17,549*

NOTES:—(i.) ALIENS IN TRANSIT.—The above totals include Aliens in transit, but the number of such Aliens cannot be stated, as particulars on this point are not required by law to be furnished. At some ports, however, it is the usual practice to state on the Alien Lists the number of Aliens known to be "*en route* to other countries." The total number so described in February, 1905, was 9,133, compared with 5,135 in February, 1904. In the two months ending February, 1905, the number was 14,605, compared with 7,675 in the two months ending February, 1904. These figures, however, are incomplete for the reasons stated, and many Aliens not described in the Aliens Lists as "*en route* to other countries," are in fact, known by special inquiry, to have been also in transit.

(ii.) SAILORS.—The number of sailors included with the Aliens not described in the Alien Lists as *en route* to places out of the United Kingdom in the month of February, 1905, was 1,004, and 924 in the same month of 1904; in the two months ending February, 1905, the number was 1,997, and in the same months of 1904 the number was 1,949.

(iii.) SCOPE OF THE RETURNS.—The ports from which Alien Lists are received are Aberdeen, Belfast, Blyth, Bristol, Cardiff, Dover, Dublin, Folkestone, Glasgow, Goole, Grangemouth, Granton, Greenock, Grimsby, Harwich, Hull, Kirkcaldy, Leith, Liverpool, London, Middlesbrough, Newcastle, Newhaven, Newport, North Shields, South Shields, Southampton, Sunderland, and West Hartlepool. The lists received from Dover, Folkestone, Harwich, Newhaven, and Southampton show only deck passengers, and persons who, after landing, proceed by train as third-class passengers.

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GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of February, 1905, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance of 1*s.* 1*d.* per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1903, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s.* 1*d.* for the first, and 5*s.* for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1899–1903, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The Board of Trade "Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade on the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the March issue:—State of the Labour Market in February; Fatal Industrial Accidents in 1904; Spindles and Looms in Woollen and Worsted Factories; Relief of the Unemployed.

FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in Consular Reports of the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous Series** issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

ANNUAL.

No. 3,328. Trade of Trieste for 1904.

Remarks on coal trade, with statement of imports and list of prices.

Proposed establishment of a coffee exchange.

Decrease of importation of pig-iron consequent on erection of blast furnaces.

Details of imports from the United Kingdom.

Formation of an association to develop commercial relations with Mexico.

This publication also contains a report from Lissa.

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Government Publications.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

No. 629. Cotton Mills of China.

Sketch of the development of cotton spinning, in which modern methods were first used in 1891.

List of mills in China and Hong Kong weaving cloth by means of steam-driven machinery.

Details of principal cotton mills: ownership, number of spindles, nature of products, &c.

Ultimate effect on Lancashire trade of the growth of the cotton industry in China.

Remarks on conditions of labour.

Statistics of production, prices, imports, and exports of cotton and yarn.

Sketch map of the district where the cotton mills are established.

No. 630. Technical Instruction in Germany; Supplementary and Miscellaneous.

This report deals with all the schools omitted, for various reasons, from previous reports on technical instruction in Germany. Schools devoted to instruction in the following trades are described:—Boot making; mining, metallurgy, and smelting; horse-shoeing; tanning; basket-making; photography; milling; violin-making; toy-making; gilding; book printing.

OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

Board of Agriculture and Fisheries. Agricultural Returns, 1904. (*Produce of Crops.*) *Price* 3*d.*

This volume shows the total produce and yield per acre of the principal crops in each county of Great Britain, with summaries for the United Kingdom. Preliminary figures with regard to wheat, barley, and oats were published in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 1st December last, p. 397.

Africa, No. 13 (1904). *Report by Mr. A. E. Butter on the Survey of the Proposed Frontier between British East Africa and Abyssinia.* [*Cd.* 2,312.] *Price* 10*d.*

This publication, in addition to the above-mentioned report and a map illustrating the proposed frontier, contains an account of the principal tribes of the Boran nation, and notes on the products and trade of the Boran country.

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Government Publications.

LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

THE following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since 1st January, 1905, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

No.	Place.	Price
	EUROPE—	
	Austria-Hungary:	
3328	Trieste, 1904	1½*d.*
	Belgium:	
3327	Antwerp—Shipping ...1904	7½*d.*
3325	Belgium—Finances 1904–05	1*d.*
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3324	Denmark (Supplementary) 1903	½*d.*
	German Empire and Colonies:	
624	*Memorandum on German Cement*	½*d.*
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3323	South Italy 1904	1½*d.*
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628	*Cultivation of Tea in the Caucasus*	½*d.*
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3321	Somaliland Protectorate... ... 1903–04	3*d.*
3322	Tangier and District ...	1½*d.*
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	United States of America:	
3326	Baltimore 1904	1½*d.*
625	*Rice Industry in the United States*	2*d.*
626	*Iron and Steel Exhibits at the St. Louis Exhibition* ...	2½*d.*
627	*United States Railways* ...	2½*d.*
	ASIA—	
	China:	
629	Cotton Mills of China ...	2*d.*

COLONIAL OFFICE REPORTS.

The following Reports relating to H.M. Colonial Possessions issued since 1st January, 1905, may be purchased from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.:—

Annual.

No.	Place.	Price.
—	Cyprus	2½*d.*
444	Basutoland...	3*d.*

Miscellaneous.

No.	Place.	Price.
29	Ceylon. Reports on the results of the Mineral Survey in 1903–4	2½*d.*

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THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH
OF THE
BOARD OF TRADE.

The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade was established in 1899, in consequence of a report by a Departmental Committee, with a view to meet the constantly increasing demand for prompt and accurate information on commercial matters in the interests of British trade, so far as it can be met by Government action. It is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference. In addition, it is the duty of the Branch, as far as the interests of British Trade permit, to afford information in reply to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

The office is housed at No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., and (subject to the Comptroller-General of the Commercial, Statistical, and Labour Departments of the Board of Trade) is under the direction of Mr. T. Worthington. The Intelligence Branch endeavours, on application being made to it either personally or by letter, to supply information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender; Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c.

In consequence of the transfer of the Imperial Institute to the Board of Trade from the beginning of 1903, the work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Offices of the Imperial Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch is also in communication with the Imperial Institute at South Kensington, of which Professor Wyndham Dunstan, F.R.S., has been appointed director by the Board of Trade. Among the branches of work in charge of Professor Dunstan are the scientific investigation of the economic products of the British Empire with a view to their commercial utilisation, and the superintendence of the arrangement and classification of the Collection of these products which are exhibited at the Institute. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room at 73, Basinghall Street.

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch and intended for general information is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is now issued weekly at the price of 1*d*. Supplements to the "Board of Trade Journal" are issued quarterly, under the title of the "Imperial Institute Bulletin," containing information and reports bearing on the work carried out in the Imperial Institute at South Kensington.

COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT, BOARD OF TRADE.

January, 1905.

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

o Merchants, Manufacturers, and Shippers whose Advertisements appear in the "Board of Trade Journal."

(*Where no folio is given, Advertisement does not appear in this issue.*)

PAGE

osorbent Blottings—
Tullis, R., & Co., Markinch, Fife ... ...

iamantine Clinker (Regd.)—
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...

imiralty Charts—
Potter, J. D., 145, Minories .. 9

ents (Colonial & Foreign)—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

ricultural Seeds—
Cooper, Taber & Co., 90 & 92, Southwark Street, S.E. ...
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ...

r Compressors—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

e, Beer, and Stout Merchants—
Daukes & Co., Strand, London

kali Manufacturers—
Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire ... ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

loys—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

PAGE

Ammonia, Anhydrous, & Liquid—
Brotherton & Co., Leeds (Carbonate of Ammonia, Muriate of Ammonia, &c.)

Ammonia (Anhydrous), Valves for—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Ammunition Manufacturers—
King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham 20
Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow 4

Antifouling Composition for Ships—
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Anti-friction Metal—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Antimony Paint—
Parker & Lester, London, S.E.

Antiquities in Sundials—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Artists' Colours—
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Athletic Goods Manufacturers—
Quaife Bros. & Lilley, 313, Broad Street, Birmingham

PAGE

Bags and Sacks—
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool ... ...

Barrels, Casks, Shooks, &c.—
Rankin, G. & J., Ltd., 2/4, Houlgrove St., Liverpool...

Baths, Porcelain, Enamelled (Cast Iron)—
Clark, T. & C., & Co., Wolverhampton ... ...

Bedding—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., South Place, Finsbury, E.C. ...

Bedsteads (Iron and Brass)—
Bott, J. T., Ltd., Glover Street, Birmingham... ...
Evered & Co., London and Birmingham ... ...
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Bordesley, Birmingham, and South Place, Finsbury, E.C.
Hoyland, John, Ltd., Birmingham and London ...

Bellows—
Brison, E., & Co., Bristol ...

Bevelled and Bent Glass—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham 3

ADMIRALTY CHARTS. *The Latest Editions of Charts, Plans, and Sailing Directions, Published by the Admiralty,*

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Billiard Table Manufacturers—
Cox & Yeman, London, S.W.
Edwards, George, London, N.E. 23

Binoxide of Barium—
Bessler, Waechter & Co., 18 & 19, Fenchurch Street, E.C.
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle ... ...

Bird Seeds and Foods—
Hyde, R., & Co., London, S.E.

Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, J., & Son, 58, City Road, E.C.... ... ...

Biscuit Manufacturers—
Hubbard, Walter, Partick, Glasgow. Export Agent—J. S. Morrison, Son & Jones, Peninsular Buildings, London, E.C. ... ...

Blankets—Cotton—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester.

Bleaching Powder—
Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Blue Manufacturers—
Edge, Wm., & Sons, Ltd., Bolton... ... ...

PAGE

Boiler Incrustation (Prevention and Removal of)—
The Boilerine Manufacturing Co., Old Kent Road, S.E... C
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Boiler Makers—
Butterley Co. (The), Ltd., Derby 15
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Garrett, R., & Son, Ltd., Leiston, R.S.O. ... ...
Hartley & Sugden, Ltd., Halifax ... ...
Marriott & Graham, Govan, N.B. ... ...

Boiler Makers and Heating Engineers—
Riley, J. Ashton, Ltd., Manchester Road, Huddersfield

Boiler Tubes—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ... ...

Bolts, Nuts and Screws—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 1
Periam, Herb. W., Birmingham (Screws, Rivets, Washers, Nails (Roofing))

Bone Mill Manufacturers—
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable

PAGE

Boots and Shoes—
Lewis, C. & E., Northampton

Bottled Fruits—
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ... —

Brass Finishers—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury

Brassfounders—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ... —

Brass Plate Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn ... ... —

Brass Scrap Merchants—
Adams, John, & Sons, Newcastle-on-Tyne ... ...

Bread & Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ... —

Brick & Tile Manufacturers—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Enamelled and Glazed Bricks, Glazed Wall Tiles)
Pearson, E.J. & J., Stourbridge
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... —
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ... —

Brickmaking Machinery—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ... —

JOSEPH GARDNER & SONS,

Foreign Hard and Fancy Wood Merchants,

LIVERPOOL AND LONDON.

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Manufacturers of Ash Boat Oars, Handspikes, and of Cornel and Persimmons Shuttle Blocks.

Telegraphic Addresses—GARDNER {LIVERPOOL LONDON.

THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Bronze Manufacturers— PAGE

Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Brush Manufacturers—

Brison, E., & Co., Bristol ...
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...

Bulbs—

Cooper, Taber & Co., Ltd., London ... ...

Bunting Manufacturers—

Biley, E., & Co., Providence Street Mills, Leeds ... ...

Button Manufacturers—

Smith & Wright, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

Cables and Wires—

Connolly Bros., Ltd., Blackley, Manchester 16
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Telegraph Manufact'ng Co., Ltd., The, Helsby, Warrington ... ...

Candle Manufacturers— PAGE

Ogston & Tennant, Ltd., Aberdeen ... ...
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Carbolic Acid—

Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Carbonic Acid Gas Valves—

Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Carboys—

Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks ... ...

Carpets and Rugs—

Barton, J. E., & Sons, Kidderminster ... ...

Carriage Builders—

Forder & Co., Ltd., Warrant Holders to H.M. the King, Upper St. Martin's Lane, W.C.; Works, Wolverhampton 4

Cartridge Manufacturers—

Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow 4

Cement Manufacturers—

Peters Bros., London, S.W.... 9
West Kent Portland Cement Co., Burham, nr. Rochester

Charm Manufacturers— PAGE

Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Chemical Manufacturers—

Anglo - Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ... ...
Bessler, Waechter & Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Blythe, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs ... ...
Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., Northwich, Cheshire ...
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith ... ...
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle ... ...
Miller, Jas., Son & Co., Glasgow ... ...
The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Chemical Manure Manufacturers—

Anglo - Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ... ...
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B. ... ...

Cardiff Railway Company, Bute Docks, Cardiff.

Chairman, Lord Edmund Talbot, M.P. *Managing Director*, Sir William Thomas Lewis, Bart. *Superintendent*, James Hurman.

AREA, etc.—The present BUTE DOCKS are 111 acres in extent, and vessels loading up to 12,000 tons regularly trade there.

The NEW SOUTH DOCK, which is rapidly approaching completion, will have a water area of 50 acres. It is 2,550 feet in length, 800 feet in breadth, and 50 feet in depth from the coping; and will be capable of accommodating the LARGEST VESSELS AFLOAT. The Sea Lock will be 850 FEET IN LENGTH, and 90 FEET IN BREADTH, with a depth of water over the cill of 42 FEET at ordinary spring tides, and 32 FEET at ordinary neap tides. Two Large Graving Docks, up to 850 FEET IN LENGTH, and entered from THIS DOCK, are about to be constructed.

MACHINERY AND APPLIANCES.—The Bute Docks are equipped with the most IMPROVED Appliances for the discharging and loading of vessels with dispatch; the greater portion being worked by HYDRAULIC PRESSURE. There is an ample equipment of Cranes of various power up to 70 TONS, as well as Grain Elevators, &c., &c.

Special attention may be drawn to the NEW 70-TON CRANE in the ROATH DOCK, thus enabling THE CARDIFF RAILWAY COMPANY to ship or unship THE HEAVIEST WEIGHTS.

COAL SHIPPING FACILITIES.—Coal is being shipped at these Docks by the ordinary Fixed, as well as Moveable Staiths; as also by the LEWIS-HUNTER PATENT COALING CRANES. The Cardiff Railway Company have the EXCLUSIVE use in the Bristol Channel of the LEWIS HUNTER Coaling Cranes, which have proved by far the most satisfactory appliances for shipping Welsh Coal, with dispatch and the Least Possible Breakage. Colliery screened coal shipped by these cranes being equal to double screened coal shipped by ordinary Staiths, and thereby ensuring to the purchaser an INCREASED VALUE OF AT LEAST ONE SHILLING per ton over that of coal put on board by shipping appliances at other Docks, besides ensuring great SAVING IN BREAKAGE and uniformity of distribution throughout the cargo of any small coal that might exist; thus minimising any risk of spontaneous ignition from small coal in cargoes bound for distant ports. THREE OR MORE CRANES can be worked simultaneously into one vessel, and as much as 330 TONS have been shipped by one crane in an hour, and 4,773 TONS have been shipped into a vessel in 10 HOURS. Shippers attach so much importance to the advantages of these Cranes that they frequently elect to wait some time for a CRANE BERTH rather than have their coal shipped by the usual staiths.

The NEW SOUTH DOCK will be entirely equipped with these COALING CRANES, in deference to the wishes of so many shippers and buyers of CARDIFF COAL.

WAREHOUSES AND TRANSIT SHEDS.—Good accommodation for the storage of GRAIN, PROVISIONS, &c., &c., BONDED AND FREE.

WHARF SPACE AND YARDS.—Large provision is made for stacking Timber, Deals, Iron Ore, &c. Timber Ponds, 28 ACRES in extent, with COMPETITIVE RAILWAY COMMUNICATION TO ALL PARTS.

FACILITIES FOR SHIP REPAIRS, etc.—There are 10 PRIVATE GRAVING AND FLOATING DOCKS, ranging up to 800 feet in length, with SEPARATE PROPRIETARIES, and one PUBLIC GRAVING DOCK 600 FEET in length. There are also several MARINE ENGINEERING FIRMS, thus giving Shipowners an opportunity of obtaining tenders for repairs of every description.

RAILWAY ACCOMMODATION.—CARDIFF is the NATURAL PORT for BIRMINGHAM and the MIDLAND DISTRICT, as the London & North Western, Midland, and Great Western Railway Companies have direct communication from the Ship's Side.

DOCK CHARGES.—These are much below the average of our Great Ports. Vessels can generally procure an outward cargo to any PORT in the WORLD, thus giving the Bute Docks an advantage for Imports, as vessels do not require to change Ports.

TRADE.—The BUTE DOCKS were opened in the year 1839, and the IMPORTS and EXPORTS in 1902 were as follows:—Imports, 2,117,510 TONS; Exports, 7,684,087 TONS; Total, 9,801,597 TONS.

CATTLE IMPORTATION.—The BUTE DOCKS are the ONLY DOCKS in South Wales which have permission from the BOARD OF TRADE to land FOREIGN CATTLE. Excellent CATTLE LAIRS, SLAUGHTER HOUSES, and CHILL ROOMS are erected adjacent to the Wharf in the deepest-water dock, with Railways leading into them, having communication with all PARTS.

COLD STORAGE.—Ample Accommodation of the most modern description is provided for the storage of dead meat, poultry, provisions, vegetables, &c.

STATUS OF CARDIFF.—CARDIFF now occupies the position of being the FIRST PORT in the UNITED KINGDOM for shipping cleared to FOREIGN COUNTRIES and BRITISH POSSESSIONS and the PREMIER PORT in the WORLD for the SHIPMENT OF COAL.

NOTE.—The Bute Docks are the only Docks situated in the Town of Cardiff. Vessels using the Bute Docks thereby save their owners and Captains from loss of time in making journeys between the Vessels and the Merchants' and Brokers' Offices, Banks, Custom House, Post Office, &c., all of which Offices are adjacent to the Bute Docks.

The fullest information on all matters will be readily granted on application to the

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Chemical Manure Manufacturers—*continued*—
Richards, G. H., 234, Borough High Street, S.E. ... ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Chemical & Physical Apparatus—
Reynolds & Branson, Ltd., Leeds ... ...

Chemists (Manufacturing)—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
Scott & Bowne, Ltd., London, E.C. (Scott's Emulsion) ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

Chilled Shot—
The Abbey Improved Chilled Shot Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne 2

Chimney Cowl Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester ...

Chimney Shaft, &c., Builder and Repairer—
Lewis, Joseph, 5 and 6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. ... ...

China Clay—
Lovering, John, & Co., St. Austell 18

PAGE

China Door Furniture Mnfrs.—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C... 6

China Electrical Fittings—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C... 6

China Manufacturers—
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...
Lovering, John, & Co., St. Austell, Cornwall 18

Chronometers—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....
Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 and 34, Cockspur Street, London... ... 8

Clocks and Watches—
Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 and 34, Cockspur Street, London... ... 8
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...

Cloth Finishing Machines—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee

Clothing (Fustian)—
Brown, R. B., & Sons, Hebden Bridge... ... ...

Clothing Manufacturers (Fustian)—
Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge

Clothing and Woollen Mnfrs.—
Grainger & Smith, Dudley ...

Cloths for Machinery—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury

Clutch Manufacturers—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

Coal and Coke—
Cannock Chase Colliery Co., Ltd., Birmingham ... ...
Cory Bros., & Co., Ltd., Cardiff ... ...
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. ...
Wharncliffe Woodmoor Colliery Co., Ltd., Barnsley ...
Wigan Coal and Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan ... ...

Coal Depot Proprietors—
Cory Bros. & Co., Cardiff ...
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. ...

Coal Screening Plant—
Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield ... ...

Coatings—Cotton—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester

Cocoa and Chocolate Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Coffee Mill Manufacturers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

ESTABLISHED 1860.

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AND
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D MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

liery Engines—
'lowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield ... ...

liery Owners—
'annock Chase Colliery Co., The, Ltd., Birmingham ...
'ory Bros. & Co., Cardiff ... 3
'anemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. ... C
Vharncliffe Woodmoor Colliery Co., Ltd., Barnsley...

ɔur Manufacturers—
'arquhar & Gill, Aberdeen...
evinstein, Ltd., Manchester
'almer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...
tobinson, J. B., London, E.C.
Vilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

ıposition for Bottoms of Ships—
'arquhar & Gill, Aberdeen...
'eacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...

ıpressed Gases (Fittings for)—
cotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

certinas (English)—
achenal & Co., Little James Street, W.C. ... ...

fectioners—
raven, M. A., & Son, Ebor Confectionery Works, York

fectioners' Colours, Essences, &c.—
ush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
onfectioners' Vegetable Colours and Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., Hackney Wick, N.E. ... ...
ondon Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
tevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

fectioners (Manufacturing, Wholesale and Export)—
raven, M. A., & Son, Ebor Confectionery Works, York

PAGE

Coping and Paving Bricks—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Copper Tape, Wire Rope, &c.—
Connolly Bros., Ltd., Blackley, Manchester 16
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Corks—
Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks ... ...

Cotton Bagging—
Judge, T. & W., London, S.E.

Cotton Goods—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow ... ...
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury
Spinner, E., & Co., Manchester ... ...

Cotton Waste—
Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester... ...

Cranes, Crab-Winches—
Russell, George, & Co., Motherwell, N.B. ... ...

Creosote—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Damp Wall Compositions—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E.

Decklights and Porthole Glasses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Birmingham 3

Decorated Tin Plates—
The Tinplate Decorating Co., Ltd., Neath 14

Decorative Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Delta Metal Manufacturers—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Disinfectants—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... .

PAGE

Disintegrators—
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable... ... ...
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ... ...

Distillers—
Crawford, Daniel, & Son, Ltd., Glasgow ... ...
Dailuaine - Talisker Distilleries, Ltd., Carron, Strathspey ... ...
Distillers Co., Ltd., The, Edinburgh ... ...

Docks (Floating) Caissons, &c.—
Cardiff Railway Co., The, Bute Docks, Cardiff; London Office, 22A, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W. 11
Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Co., Wyre Dock, Fleetwood ... ...

Door Furniture—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C... 6

Drilling Machines—
Northern Engineering Co., Ltd., King's Cross, near Halifax ... ...

Drills—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester.

Dry Soap—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Dye Merchants—
Edge, Wm., Sons & Co., Bolton... ... ...

Edge Tools—
Thornton, G., & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Electrical Fittings (China)—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C.... 6

Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and Contractors—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C.... 6
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and Contractors— PAGE
continued—
Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Lewis, Joseph, 5-6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. ... ...

Electric Bells—
Wright, Archibald J., Ltd., 318, Upper St., London, N.

Electric Light Fittings—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C.... 6

Electric Novelties—
Wright, Archibald J., Ltd., 318, Upper St., London, N.

Electrical Screws (Iron, Steel or Brass)—
Acme Lathe Co., Ltd., The, Ardwick, Manchester ...

Emery and Corundum Wheel Manufacturers—
London Emery Works Co., 58H Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, near Manchester ... 17

Emery and Glass Cloth—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...

Emery and Glass Paper—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...

Emery Grindg. Machine Mkrs.—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester 17

Emery Manufacturers—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (Emery Wheel and Corundum Wheel Manufacturers) ... 17

Enamel Colours—
Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen...

Enamelled Fire Clay Sinks— PAGE
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

Encaustic Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Sons, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs... ...

Engine Cleaning Waste—
Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester... ... C

Engineers—
Northern Engineering Co., Halifax ... ...

Engineers (Boilers)—
Riley, J. Ashton. Ltd., Manchester Road, Huddersfield

Engineers' Ironfounders—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee (Machine Moulded Wheels)
Whittingham & Porter, Hull
Wigan Coal and Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan ... ...
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorkhouse ... ...

Engineers' Oil Cans—
Kaye, Joseph, & Sons, Ltd., Leeds ... ...

Engineers' Stores—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Engineers' Tool Makers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield C
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ... ...

Engineers and Millwrights—
General—
Aveling & Porter, Rochester (Locomotives, Road Rollers, &c.) ... ...
Baird, W., & Co., Glasgow (Pig Iron, Coal, Coke, &c.) ... 19
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...
Burrell, C., & Sons, Ltd., Thetford (Locomotives, Steam Rollers, Traction Engines) ... ...
Chidlaw, Robert, Manchester
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Garrett, R., & Sons, Leiston, Suffolk ... ...

Engineers and Millwrights— PAGE
General—continued—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N.
Howorth, J., & Co., Farnworth, Manchester ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (various forms of Engineers' Grinding and Polishing Machinery) 17
Marriott & Graham, Govan, Glasgow (Boiler Makers)...
Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield ... ...
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee
Russell, G., & Co., Motherwell, N.B. ... ...
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...
Spencer, Moulton & Co., Ltd., Bradford-on-Avon, Wilts...
Whiteley, William, & Sons, Lockwood, Huddersfield...
Whittingham & Porter, Hull
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorkshire ... ...

Engine Packings—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Engine-cleaning Waste—
Jones, W. C., Ltd., Manchester C

Engine Roll Bars—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Sheffield C

Essence Manufacturers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours & Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., The, London, N.E.
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. ... ...
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Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark-street, London, S.E. ... ...

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

) MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

ances, &c.—
ush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
evenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

ential Oils—
ush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
ondon Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
evenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

ibition Agents—
rew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn... 2

ibition Fitters—
rew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

y Goods, Dealers in, Importers, Warehousemen and Manufacturers—
ellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...

ywood Merchants—
ardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool 10

Makers—
oworth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester ...

ing Stuffs (for Cattle & Sheep)—
unningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B. ... ...

s (Paper Makers' Machine)—
enyon, James, & Son, Bury C

ing (Steel and Iron)—
arnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich 4

Manufacturers—
rookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield C

r Manufacturers—
alsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...

Bricks—
alder Fireclay Co., The, Coatbridge... ... ...
raig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

PAGE

Fire Bricks—*continued*—
King Bros., Stourbridge ...
Pearson, E. J. & J., Stourbridge
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...

Fire Clay—
King Bros., Stourbridge ...
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...

Fire Clay Goods—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Sinks) ... ...

Flag and Banner Manufacturers—
Piggott Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Flannel Manufacturers—
Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale ... ...
Spinner & Co., Manchester...

Flour Mill Engineers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Flour Millers—
Appleby, Josh., & Sons, Ltd., Liverpool ... ...
Vernon, W., & Sons, Liverpool

Forks—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Forwarding Agents—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., 38, Lime Street, E.C. ... ...

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Anglo-Italian Talc and Plumbago Mines Co., Ltd., 26, Old Hall Street, Liverpool

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Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours & Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., London, N.E. ...
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

Furniture Trade Printers—
Smiley & Shaw, London, E.C.

Fustian Clothing Manufacturers—
Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge

PAGE

Fustian (Piece Goods)—
Moss Bros. (Hebden Bridge), Ltd. ... ...

Galvanized Iron Manufacturers—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Galvanized Wire Netting—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich 4

Garden Adornments—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Garden Furniture—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich 4

Garden Requisite Manufacturer—
Richards, G. H., 234, Borough High Street, S.E. ... ...

Gas Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Manchester 10

Gas Furnaces—
Cannington, Shaw & Co., St. Helens, Lancashire ... ...

Gas Governors—
Shaw, Joseph, Huddersfield..

Gas-Tight Motors—
Hodson Wright & Wood, Halifax ... ...

Gates, Railings, and Hurdles—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich 4

Gauge Glasses—
Butterworth Bros., Newton Heath, Manchester ... ...
Tomey & Sons, Perth ... ...
Tomey, Joseph, & Sons, Messrs., Ltd., Manor Glass Works, Aston, Birmingham

Gauge Glass Protectors—
Tomey, Joseph, & Sons, Messrs., Ltd., Manor Glass Works, Aston, Birmingham

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Chidlaw, Robert, 43, City Road, Manchester ... ...

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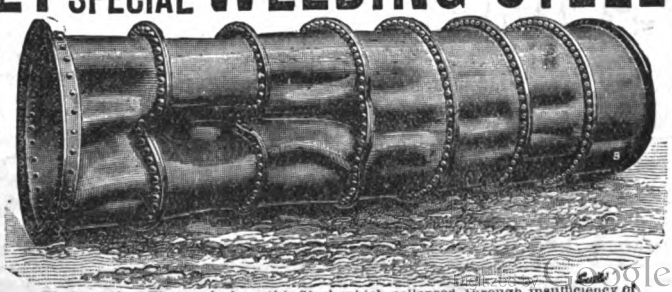

Photograph of Flue made from this Steel, which collapsed, through insufficiency of Water, without explosion.

THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

General Export Merchants—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E....

Gin Distillers—
Distillers Co., Ltd., The, Edinburgh... ... ...
Hills & Underwood, London, E.C. ... ...

Girders (Iron and Steel)—
Scott, Walter, Ltd., Leeds ...

Glass and Emery Paper—
London Emery Works Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Glass Bottles—
Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks ... ...
Cannington, Shaw & Co., Ltd., St. Helens ... ...

Glass Case Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Glass Manufacturers—
Robinson, J. B., 31, Moor Lane, E.C.... ... ...
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham 3

Glass Works—
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham 3

Glazed Bricks—
Woolliscroft, G., & Sons, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Glazed Fire Clay Sinks—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

Glaziers' Diamonds—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Glues—
The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan ...

Glycerine—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Golf Balls—
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ("Melfort" and "Henley")... ... ...

PAGE

Grain Cleaning Machinery—
Boby, Robt., Ltd., Bury St. Edmunds ... ...

Granite Merchants—
Freeman, John, Sons & Co., Ltd., Penryn, Cornwall (Engineering and Architectural) ... ...

Grease Manufacturers—
Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Grinding Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable ... ...

Grinding & Polishing Machry.—
London Emery Works Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (Makers of various forms of)... ... 17

Guano Manufacturers—
Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ... ...

Gummed Paper—
Jones, S., & Co., 56, Carter Lane, St. Paul's, E.C. ...

Hammers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield C

Hams and Bacon—
Nickson, G. & J., & Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Hand Looms—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ld., Bury

Hardwood Merchants—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool 10

Hat Manufacturers—
Christy & Co., London, E.C.

Heating & Ventilating Engineers—
Hartley & Sugden, Halifax (Boilers) ... ...
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Hinge and Lock Manufacturers—
Crompton, Thomas, Ashton, near Wigan ... ...

PAGE

Hoes—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ... ...
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Holloware—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Hop Commissioners—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ...

Hose—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Hose-Pipe Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Hosiery—
Walker, R., & Sons, Rutland Street, Leicester ... ...

Hosiery & Finishing Machry.—
Berridge, I. L., & Co., Leicester (Sole Proprietors Griswold Knitters) ... ...

Hosiery Yarns—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford ... ...

Humidifier Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester ...

Hydraulic Engineers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Hydraulic Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ... ...

Hydraulic Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Ice Machine Manufacturers—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...

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PAGE

ıdia-rubber Goods—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C...

ıdia-rubber Manufacturers—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C...
Harris, Joseph, Altrincham (Advertising Balloons, Squeakers, and Rubber Surgical Appliances) ...
India-Rubber, Gutta-Percha & Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

jectors—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

k Manufacturers—
Blackwell & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

kstands—
Darke, E., 14a, Gt. Marlborough Street, W. ... ...

ɔecticides (Horticultural)—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ...

rulators—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C. .. 6

n Buildings—
Ash, J., & Son, Rea Street, South Birmingham ... ...
Humphreys, Ltd., Knightsbridge, London, S.W. ...

n Plate Workers—
Ash, J., & Son, Rea Street, South Birmingham ... ...

n Safes—
Ratner Safe Co., Ltd., Hancock Road, Bow, E.... ... 2

nfounders—
Roberts, J. & S., Ltd., West Bromwich ... ...
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee
Saxby & Farmer, Canterbury Road, London, N.W. ...
Whittingham & Porter, Hull
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

PAGE

Ironmasters—
Baird, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Gartsherrie, N.B. 19
Parkgate Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham C
Whiteley & Sons, Ltd., Huddersfield ... ...

Ironstone Adamant Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs. ... ...

Jute Weaving Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Knitting Machine Builders—
Stibbe, G., & Co., Leicester...
Harrison Patent Knitting Machine Co., Ltd., 227, Upper Brook Street, Manchester 2

Lacquer Manufacturers—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E...
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E. ... ...
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Lamp Manufacturers—
Bladon, T. E., 99 and 100, Northwood Street, Birmingham; London address, 4, Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, E.C. 2

Lathes (Turning, Polishing, &c.)—
Fabricotti, B., London, S.W.. 8
Northern Engineering Co., Ltd., King's Cross, near Halifax ... ...

Launch Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Patricroft, Manchester ...

Launch Oil Engines—
The Seal Motor Co., Hammersmith, London 2

Lead Glazing—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N. ... ...

Lead Manufacturers—
Hall, W., Winstanley Road, Battersea, S.W.... ... ...

Leather Belting (Link)—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

PAGE

Leather Reviver—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E.

Leggings and Gaiters—
Wallace, Bailey & Wilkins, Bermondsey, London, S.E.

Lens Manufacturers for Ships and Railway Lamps—
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham 3

Letter Cutters—
Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield ... 2

Lifts—
Clark, Bunnett, & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

Lightning Conductor Manufacturer and Erector—
Lewis, Joseph, 5 & 6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. ... ...

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Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. ... ...

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Coates Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

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Garrett, R., & Sons, Leiston, Suffolk ... ...

Looking Glass Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2
Robinson, J. B., 31, Moor Lane, E.C.... ... ...

Loom Makers—
Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...
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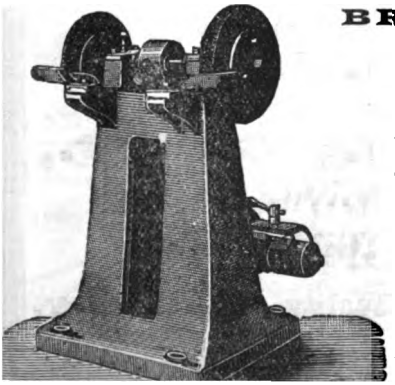

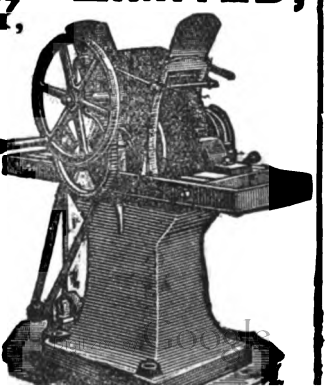

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Lubricants—*continued*—
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Lubricating Oils—
Light, Jas., & Son, Ltd., 9, Rumford Street, Liverpool
Nobel Bros., Petersburg ...
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Lubricators—
Nobel Bros., Petersburg ...

Machine Felts—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury

Machine Knives, Cutters & Blades—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... C

Machine Makers—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee

Machine Screws, Bolts, Nuts, &c.—
Acme Lathe Co., Ltd., The, Ardwick, Manchester ...

Magnesia—
Henry, T. & W., East Street, St. Peters, Manchester ...

Manchester Warehousemen—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E. ...

Manures (Chemical)—
Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ... ...
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd. Leith ... ...
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle ... ...
Thomson, Wm., & Sons, Ltd., Clovenfords by Galashiels (for Vines & Plants) ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Marble and Granite Merchant and Importer—
Fabbricotti, B., Pimlico, London, S.W. 8

Marble Manufacturers of all Descriptions—
Fabbricotti, B., Pimlico, London, S.W. 8

PAGE

Mattresses (Woven Wire)—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Hay Mill, Birmingham ... ...
Lane, George, & Sons, Brueton Street, Birmingham ...

Medical Plasters—
De St. Dalmas, A., & Co., Leicester ... ...

Metal Merchants and Manfrs.—
Billington & Newton, Longport, Staffs. 22
Delta Metal Co., Ltd, London, E.C. ... ...
Dugard Bros., Birmingham...
King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham 20

Metal Polish—
Baumgartner, J. F., & Co., London, W. ... ...

Military and Naval Ornaments—
Narborough, F., 40, 42, 44, Lombard Street, Birmingham ... ...
Wilkins, T. B., 52, Clement Street, Birmingham... ...

Mine Owners—
Wigan Coal & Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan (Producers of Best House, Gas and Steam Coals, and Wigan Cannel)

Mineral Waters—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. ... ...

Mining Lamps (all classes)—
Cooke, Joseph, & Son (Belmont Passage), 209, Lawley Street, Birmingham ... ...

Mortar and Pestle Manfrs.—
Bullers, Ltd., London E.C.... 6

Mortice Furniture—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C.... 6

Mosaic and Tiles Decoration—
Geary, Walker & Co., 11, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C. ... ...
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs. ... ...

Motors (Gas Tight)—
Hodgson, Wright & Wood, Halifax ... ...

PAGE

Mushroom Ketchup—
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...

Musical Instrument Manfrs.—
Lachenal & Co., London, W.C.

Mustard Seed—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ...

Nails—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 1

Name Plate Makers—
Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield ...

Newspapers—
Colliery Guardian, 49, Essex Street, Strand, W.C. ... 12

Night Lights—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Oar Manufacturers—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool 10

Office Fittings—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Oilcake (Linseed and Cotton)—
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B. ... ...

Oil Cans—
Bladon, T. E., 99 & 100, Northwood Street, Birmingham; London address, 4, Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, E.C. ... ...
Kaye, Joseph, & Sons, Ltd., Leeds ... ...

Oil Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Manchester ... ...
The Seal Motor Co., Hammersmith, London 2

Oil Mill Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

Oil Refiners, Distillers, & Mfrs.—
Bremner, Jno. A., & Co., Manchester ... ...
Fleming, A. B., & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh... ... ...
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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Oil Refiners, Distillers, and Manufacturers—*continued*—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C. ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Opal Tiling—
The Permanent Decorative Glass Co., Ltd., Lancaster..

Ore Crushing Machines—
Baxter, W. H., Leeds ... ...

Ovens—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Oxfords Manufacturers—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow ... ...

Oxides—
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Oxygen, Cylinder Valves for—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Paint Manufacturers—
Hoyle, Robson, Barnett & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne...
Parker & Lester, London, S.E. (Antimony Paint) ...
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Robinson, E., & Co., Ltd., City Works, Sheffield ...
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Paper Bag Makers (Home and Export)—
Higham Bros., Cone Works, Farnworth, near Bolton, Lancs.... ... ...

Paper Bags—
Smith, Stone & Knight, Ltd., Union Paper Mills, Birmingham ... ...

PAGE

Paper Makers—
Smith & McLaurin, Messrs., Ltd., Milliken Park, Scotland (Coated and Gummed Papers) ... ...
Tullis, R., & Co., Markinch, Fife ... ...

Paper Makers and Stationers (Wholesale and Export)—
Annandale, John, & Sons, Ltd., Shotley Grove, Durham ... ...
Dickinson, J., & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Ford, T. B., Loudwater, High Wycombe (Blottings)
Hodgkinson, W. S., & Co., Wells, Somerset ... ...
Hollingsworth & Co., Maidstone ... ...
Olive & Partington, Manchester ... ...

Paper Makers' Steel and Bronze Tools—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... C

Paper Makers' Tools—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Sheffield C

Parquet Flooring—
Geary, Walker & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Patent Fuel Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

Pavement Light Lenses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Birmingham 3

Paving Bricks—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Pen Manufacturers—
Gillott, J., & Sons, Birmingham ... ...

Perfumers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E....

PAGE

Perfumery Materials—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E....
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

Phosphor Bronze—
Billington & Newton, Longport, Staffs. 22

Photographic Process—
Platinotype Co., The, London, W.C. ... ...

Pianos, Organs, and Small Instruments—
Riley's on Constitution Hill, Birmingham ... ...

Pickles—
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...

Picks—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Pins (Toilet)—
Edridge, Merrett & Co., Ltd., Legge Street, Birmingham

Pistons—
Buckley, W., & Co., Millsands, Sheffield ... .

Plate and Bar Manufacturers—
Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby... 15

Plate Glass Manufacturers—
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C.

Plumbago—
Anglo-Italian Talc and Plumbago Mines Co., Ltd., 26, Old Hall Street, Liverpool

Poles, Telegraph—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C... 6

Porcelain Paint—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. ... ...

Portable Buildings—
Humphreys, Ltd., Knightsbridge, London, S.W. ...

Portable Iron and Wood Buildings—
Iles, Robert, Ltd., Walham Green, London, S.W. ...

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Portland Cement— PAGE
Peters Bros., 34, Victoria Street, S.W. 9
West Kent Portland Cement Co., Burham, Rochester, Kent ... ...

Preservative for Stone, &c.—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. ... ...

Printers, Publishers, and Engravers—
Colliery Guardian Co., Ltd., 49, Essex Street, Strand, W.C. 12
Sheppard & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Smily & Shaw, London, E.C.

Printing Ink Manufacturers—
Blackwell & Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Coates Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Proprietary Articles, Specialities, &c—
Baumgartner, J. F., & Co., London, W. ("La Brillantine" Metallic Powder)
Dalmas, A. de St., & Co., Leicester (Medical Plaisters)
Henry's Calcined Magnesia (T. & W. Henry), Manchester
Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Co., Lincoln (Clarke's Blood Mixture)..
Scott & Bowne, Ltd., London E.C. (Scott's Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil)... ...

Provision Merchants (Wholesale and Export)—
Griffiths, McAlister & Co., Liverpool ... ...
Gunson, Geo., Sons & Co. Liverpool ... ...
MacSimon's Stores, Ltd., Canning Place, Liverpool..
Nickson, G. & J., & Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Provisions (Importers and Exporters)—
Gunson, Geo., Sons & Co., 3, Atherton Street, Liverpool

Pulley Blocks— PAGE
Godfrey, J. T., Loughborough

Pulleys—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

Pumping Engines—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Pumps—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Quarry Owners—
Freeman, J., Son & Co., London, W. ... ...
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Quilts, Covers, Toiletings, &c.—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester

Quiltings and Piques—
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Railway Appliances—
Saxby & Farmer, Ltd., Canterbury Road, London, N.W. (Railway Signals, &c.) ... ...

Railway Brass Foundry—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Heath Mill Lane, Birmingham ... ...

Railway Lamp Lenses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham 8

Railway Signals—
Saxby & Farmer, Ltd., London, N.W. ... ...

Rain Water Separator—
Rogers, H. J., Shottermill, Haslemere ... ...

Reducing Valves for Compressed Gases—
Scotch & Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Refrigerators— PAGE
Haslam Foundry and Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Derby ... ...
Pulsometer Engineering Co., The, Reading and London

Retorts—
Stevens, J., & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Rings and Springs—
Buckley, Wm., & Co., Millsands, Sheffield... 8

Rivet, Bolt, and Nut Manfrs.—
Gadd, Thos., Rowley Regis, Dudley ... ...
Guest, Keen, & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 1
Periam, H. W., Birmingham
Priest, B., & Sons, Oldhills, Staffs ... ...

Roof Glazing—
Grover & Co., Ltd London, N.

Roofing (Patent)—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N.

Roofing Tile Machinery—
Woolliscroft. G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs. ... ...

Roofing Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Rope Manufacturers—
Piggott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Rubber Tyres—
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N. ... ...

Sacks and Bags—
Judge, T. & W., London, E.C. (Cotton) ... ...
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool ... ...

Saddlery, Harness, &c., Mfrs.—
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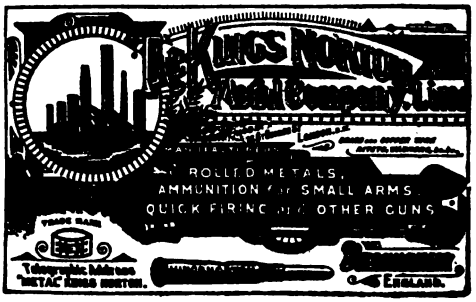

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Safety Fuse Manufacturers— PAGE
Nobel's Explosive Co., Ltd., Glasgow 4

Salt—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Salvage and Dismantling Contractors—
Adams, John, & Sons, Broad Chare, Newcastle-on-Tyne 2

Sanitary Appliances—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Drain Pipes and Traps, Sanitary Earthenware, W.C. Basins, Urinals, and Washdown Closets, Enamelled Sinks) ... ...

Sanitary Paints—
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...

Sanitary Potters—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

Sauce Manufacturers—
Cocks, Chas., & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...

Saw Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield C

Scrap Iron—
Adams, John, & Sons, Broad Chare, Newcastle-on-Tyne 2

Screw Hooks, Screw Eyes—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 1

Screwing Tackle—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ... ...

Screws and Spindles—
Dodd, Joseph, & Co.. Chester Works, Aston, Birmingham

Screws, Washers, Nails, &c.—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 1
Periam, H. W., Birmingham

Seals—
Pryor, E. & Son, Sheffield ... 2

Seed Merchants—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ...

Seeds— PAGE
Cooper, Taber & Co., Ltd., London ... ...

Serge—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford... ... ...
Hamlyn Bros.. Ltd., Buckfastleigh, Devon ... ...
Spinner & Co., Manchester...

Sewing Machines—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee

Shaftings, Pulleys, Plummer Blocks, &c.—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

Sheep Dip (both Arsenical and Nicotine)—
Richards, G. H.. 234, Borough High Street. S.E. ... ...

Sheep Deep (Nicotine)—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E....

Sheep Dip Manufacturers—
Cooper, Wm., & Nephews, Berkhamsted, Makers of the Original Powder Dip...

Sheep Shearing Machines—
Cooper. Wm., & Nephews, 142, Illinois Street, Chicago, and Berkhamsted, England

Sheers—
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...

Shipbuilders—
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...

Shipping Agents—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Ship Stores and Chandlery—
MacSymon's Stores, Ltd., Canning Place, Liverpool..

Ships' Berths—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Bordesley, Birmingham... ...

Ships' Lamp Lenses— PAGE
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham 3

Shirtings—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow ... ...

Shoe Rivets—
Edridge, Merrett & Co., Ltd., Legge Street, Birmingham

Shop Fittings—
Drew & Co.. Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2
Harris & Sheldon, Ltd., Stafford Street, Birmingham...

Shot (Hard and Soft)—
The Abbey Improved Chilled Shot Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne 2

Shovels—
Thornton, George, & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Shuttle Block Manufacturers—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool 10

Silk Weaving Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Sinks—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock, N.B.... ... ...

Slate Merchants and Manufrs.—
Davies Bros., Portmadoc, N. Wales ... ...
Williams, Richard, & Co., Portmadoc ... ...

Slipper Manufacturers—
Redman Bros.,Hebden Bridge

Slipway Machinery—
Day, Summers, & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...

Soap Manufacturers—
Ogston & Tennant, Ltd., Aberdeen ... ...
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...
Tennant, Charles, & Co., Glasgow ... ...

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Soap Manufacturers—*contd.* PAGE
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Hazlehurst Soap Works, Runcorn
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester (Hard and Soft Soaps)... ... ...

Soap Powders—
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Soap Stone—
Anglo-Italian Talc and Plumbago Mines Co., Ltd., 26, Old Hall Street, Liverpool

Soda—
Brunner, Mond, & Co, Northwich, Cheshire ... ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Spades—
Thornton, George, & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Sponge Cloths, &c.—
Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester... ... C

Stamp and Punch Makers—
Pryor, Edward, & Son, Sheffield 2

Stationers (Manufacturing and Export)—
Dickinson, John, & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Stay Busk Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... C

Steam Boilers—
Hartley & Sugden, Halifax...

Steam Gauge—
Hodson, Wright & Wood, Halifax ... ...

Steam Pulsating Pumps—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...

Steam Saw Mills—
Fabbricotti, B., London, S.W. 8

Steam Valves— PAGE
Shaw, J., Albert Works, Huddersfield ... ...

Steel Castings, Steel and Iron Forgings, &c.—
Baird, W., & Co., Glasgow ... 19
Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby 16
Fairley, J., & Sons, Birmingham ... ...
Lanarkshire Steel Co., The, Motherwell, N.B. 13
Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow C

Steel and Iron Shafting, &c.—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee
Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow C

Steel Manufacturers—
Brown, Bayley's Steel Works, Ltd., Sheffield ... ...
Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby 16
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield C
Fairley, J., & Sons, Birmingham ... ...
Lanarkshire Steel Co., The, Motherwell, N.B. 13
Parkgate Iron and Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham C
Power, F. A., & Sons, Saltley, Birmingham ... ...
Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow C

Steel Pen Makers—
Gillott, J., & Sons, London and Birmingham... ... ...

Steel Ropes—
Cradock, G., & Co., Wakefield 21

Steel Tubes—
Russell, J., & Sons, Ltd., Wednesbury ... ...

Stencil Plates—
Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield ... 2

Stone Breakers—
Baxter, W. H., Ltd., Leeds...

Stone, Solution for Preservation of—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E.

Stoves—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich 4

Strong Rooms— PAGE
Hobbs, Hart & Co., Ltd., London, N.... ... ...

Sugar Refiners—
Tate, Henry, & Sons, Ltd., London and Liverpool ...

Sulphate of Copper—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Sulphate of Soda Manufacturers—
Blythe, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs. ... ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Sulphuric Acid Manufacturers—
Blythe, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs. ... ...
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith ... ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Sulphuric Acid Manufacturers' Retorts—
Stevens, J., & Sons, Birmingham 3

Surgical India Rubber Mfrs.—
Harburg and Vienna Indiarubber Co., London, E.C..

Surgical Instrument Mfctr.—
Harris, Joseph, Altrincham (Rubber Goods) ... ...

Syphons and Seltzogenes—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W.

Tailors' Trimming Warehousemen—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E....

Tallow—
Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Tanks—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Tar and Resin Distillers—
Brotherton & Co., Leeds ...
Robinson, E., & Co., Ltd., City Works, Sheffield ...

Tarpaulin Manufacturers—
Piggott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Tea Merchants—
Tower Tea Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Teak Timber—
Denny, Mott & Dickson, Ltd., 165, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C. ... ...

Telegraph Engineers—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C... 6
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Telegraph Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Helsby, Warrington ... ...

Telephones—
Telegraph Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Helsby, Warrington ... ...

Tents, Marquees and Camp Furniture—
Piggott Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Textile Engineers & Machinists—
Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Textile Machinery Manufrs.—
Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Textile Manufacturers—
Hamlyn Bros., Buckfastleigh, Devon ... ...
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E ...
Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale ... ...
Spinner, E., & Co., Manchester

Tiles, Tessellated and Glazed—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Timber Merchants—
Denny, Mott & Dickson, Ltd., 165, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C... ...
Gradwell, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness, Lancs.

PAGE

Timber Merchants and Importers—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Liverpool 10
Gradwell, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness, Lancs.

Tin Boxes and Canisters—
Tinplate Decorating Co., Ltd., The, Neath 14

Tobacco Flavour Manufacturers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. ...
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...

Tool Manufacturers—
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester 17
Thornton, George, & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Towels—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester

Traction Engines—
Aveling & Porter, Ltd., Rochester ... ...

Tube Mill Machinery—
Jones, George, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

Tubes and Fittings—
Dugard Bros., Birmingham.. 24
Russell, J., & Sons, Ltd., Wednesbury ... ...
Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

Tweeds—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E....
Platt, Jas., & Co., 77, St. Martin's Lane, W.C.... ...

Twines—
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool ... ...

Typewriter—
Yost Typewriter Co., Ltd., The, London, E.C. ... ...

PAGE

Tyre Manufacturers—
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N.... ... ...

Valves for Compressed Gases—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Varnish Manufacturers—
Blackwell & Co., Dyer's Buildings, E.C.... ... ...
Flack, Henry, London, S.E...
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E. ... ...
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Hills & Underwood, London, E.C. ... ...

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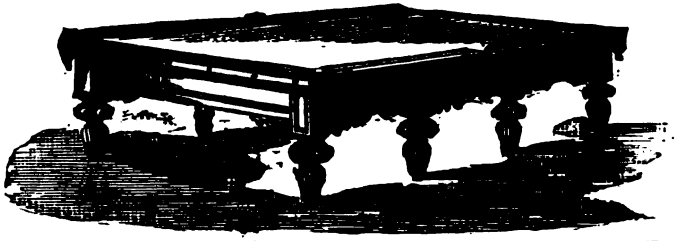

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Waiter and Tray Manufacturers—
Frank Hawker Carpathian Silver Co., Ltd., 52, Spencer-street, Birmingham ... ...

Washers—
Periam, Herbert W., Ltd., Floodgate-street Works, Birmingham ... ...

Watch and Clock Manufacturers—
Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 & 34, Cockspur-street, London 8

Water Meters, Sluice Valves, Steam Valves and Fire Appliances—
Simpson, J., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Waterproof Manufacturers—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C...
Piggott Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Waterproof Paint Manufacturers—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E.

Water Softeners—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading ... ...

Water Taps—
Palatine Engineering Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Weaving Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Wheels—
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N.... ... ...

Whip and Walking Stick Makers—
Narborough, F., 42 & 44, Lombard-street, Birmingham ... ...

White Lead Manufacturers—
Mersey White Lead Co., Ltd., Warrington ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

PAGE

Wine and Spirit Merchants—
Chaplin, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, W.C. ... ...
Crawford, Daniel, & Son, Ltd., Glasgow ... ...
Dailuaine-Talisker Distilleries, Ltd., Head Offices, 50, Wellington-street, Glasgow (Whisky from solely pure Malt) ... ...
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Hills & Underwood, London, E.C. ... ...
Morgan & Co., Hamburg ...

Wire Manufacturers—
Cradock, G., & Co., Wakefield 21
Dugard Bros., Birmingham (Brass and Copper) 14
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham (Wire Nails, Rods, Bars, Hoops, &c.) 1
Power, F. A., & Son, Saltley, Birmingham ... ...
Shipman, J., & Co., Attercliffe, Sheffield ... ...

Wire Rope Manufacturers—
Cradock, G., & Co., Wakefield 21
Lewis, Joseph, 5 & 6, Great Winchester-street, London, E.C. ... ...

Wireworkers and Weavers—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich 4
Power, F. A., & Son, Saltley, Birmingham ... ...

Wood Block Flooring—
Geary, Walker & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Wood Stains—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E.
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E. ... ...

PAGE

Wolsey Unshrinkable Wool-Underwear—
Walker, R., & Sons, Rutland Street, Leicester ... ...

Wool Importers—
Hall, John, & Sons, Liverpool ... ...

Wool, Tops, Noils, Wastes, &c.—
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Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury C

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ADVERTISERS' NOTICES.

Messrs. Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Limited, of the well known Norfolk Iron Works, Norwich, send us a copy of their new catalogue of slow combustion stoves, mantels, and slab tiles. They invite inquiries for any irregular or unusual arrangement not covered by this catalogue.

Messrs. Turner, Atherton & Co., Limited, Electrical Engineers, of the White House Machine Works, Denton, have taken up the making of motor vehicles for commercial purposes which will be worked entirely as a separate department from their electrical business.

We have received from Messrs. W. H. Chaplin & Co., Limited, Wholesale Wine and Spirit Merchants, of 35 and 36, Mark Lane, E.C., and 10, Villiers Street, W.C., their Monthly Market List. This is a "Ready Reference Index" for ports and sherries, whiskies and brandies.

The following Admiralty Charts have recently been newly issued, or so largely corrected as to render a new Chart desirable. The date of the alteration is notified in the centre of the bottom of the Chart.

NOTE.—Charts that have received such alterations as can usually be made by hand on the Charts in use, in agreement with the "Notices to Mariners," are not described in the List below. The date of such alteration is shown at the left hand lower corner of the Chart.

Chart No.	Title of Chart, and Nature and Subject of Correction.
1686	England, W., Padstow Bay. Large corrections, January.
3441	Scotland, W., Gairloch. New chart, December.
2704	Ireland, W., Blacksod Bay. Large corrections, January.
3467	Iceland, N., plans, Kalshamarsnes, Blöndaos, Selvig, Hagenesvig, Sandvig, Husevig, Snertastadir, Thorshaven. New chart, December.
565	Iceland, Western portion. North Cape to Skaga Fiord Deep. January.
3466	North Sea, Jade River, Wilhelmshaven. New chart, January.
2251	Baltic, Sweden, sheet ii., Kalmar Sound and Oland Island. Dämman and Skägganäs lights. January.
2728	Spain, N., Bidassoa River to Cape Peñas. Large corrections, January.
1053	Spain, N. and W., Cape Peñas to Portevedra Bay. Large corrections, January.
1567	Mediterranean, Algeria, approaches to Bona. Bona, December.
1128	Sardinia, ports. Plan, Arbatax Road, added, December.
366	N. Atlantic Ocean, Cape Verde Islands. Bonavista, S.E., and Brava, January.
3477	Africa, W., Port Forcados. New chart, December.
628	" W., Bight of Biafra, Opobo River. New chart, December.
622	" W., Bonny and New Calabar Rivers. Large corrections, December.
2871	Madagascar, N.W., Nosi Bé, Southern Anchorages. Large corrections, January.
2461	" W., Nosi Vao (Coffin Island) to Purdy Sand (S. Bank), including the Barren Islands. Bepoaka Point to Maintirano Pass, January.
1810	Africa, E., River Zambesi to Mozambique Harbour. Angoche Port and Bar, December.
1809	" E., Mozambique Harbour to Ras Pekawi. Plans, Port Duarte Pedroso, Almeida [illegible]

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ADVERTISERS' NOTICES—*continued.*

Chart No.	Title of Chart, and Nature and Subject of Correction.
492	India, W., Aguada to St. George Islands, including Murmagao and Goa roadstead. Murmagao Bay, January.
823	Bay of Bengal, E., sheet iii., Koronge Island to White Point and Gulf of Martaban. Moulmein River to Livermore Shoal, January.
839	Bay of Bengal, E., Andaman Islands, Port Meadows, and Kotára Anchorage. New chart, December,
2772	Eastern Archipelago, Gillolo (Halmaheira), Anchorages. Loloda Bay added, Galelo road, January.
3471	China Sea, Banka Strait. New chart, December.
1180	„ S.E., approaches to Hong Kong. Large corrections, December.
1262	„ E., Hong Kong to Gulf of Liau-tung. N. of Great Yang-tse Bank, January.
1764	„ E., Amoy Inner Harbour. New chart, January.
3449	„ E., Amoy Outer Harbour. New chart, December.
3457	„ N., Province of Shantung, Li Tau Bay to Chu Tau (Eddy Island), including Wei-Hai-Wei. New chart, December.
3468	China, N.E., Plans on the Coast of Shantung, Malan and Lungyen Coves (Actæon and Swallow Coves), Yangyuchili Bay (Rocky Bay), Litau Bay, Aylen Bay (Chiayliwang). New chart, December.
1602	China, E., Approaches to the Yang-tse-Kiang. S. channel and Tsung Ming crossing. January.
2578	Philippine Islands, Eastern part of the Sulu or Mindoro Sea. Dumankilas Bay. January.
358	Japan, Western Coasts of Kiusiu and Nipon, including the Korea Strait. Kotsu Sima to Iki Sima. January.
3472	Japan, Naikai or Seto Uchi, Hiroshima Wan, Ujino Ko. New chart, January.
994	„ Nipon, S., Yeboshi Bana to Anori Zaki, including Gokashoko (Mura Harbour), and Hamashima Ko (Goza Harbour). New chart, January.
3019	Japan, Kiusiu, N.W., Imari Wan and approaches. New chart, December.
3460	„ Nipon, S., Ino Hana to Aikuchi Bana, Kada Wan (Kada Bay), and Owashi Wan (Owashi Bay). New chart, December.
3455	Japan, Nipon S., Aikuchi Bana to Yeboshi Bana, Nagashima Wan (Nag Ura), and Kanzaki Wan (Naiya Ura). New chart, December.
2441	Japan, Tsugaru Strait (Tsugar Kaikyo). New chart, December.
2467	New Guinea, N., plans of anchorages. Mokmer Road, Ansus Road, Ansus Anchorage, Matterer Bay, Jamna Road, January.
1069	Australia, E., Port Jackson. Large corrections, January.
1022	Pacific Islands, anchorages. Sketch of Bounty Islands, January.
1510	N. Pacific Ocean, Sandwich Islands. Plan Hanapepe Bay added, January.
2462	N. America, W., Alaska, Alexander Arch., Windham Bay to Icy Cape, Stephen's Passage and Lynn Canal. Cross Sound, January.
551	S. America, E., plans. Port San Antonio, December.
818	N. America, E., Hampton Roads and Elizabeth River. Large corrections. December.
473	West Indies, Cuba, S., Santa Cruz del Sur and approaches. New chart, January.

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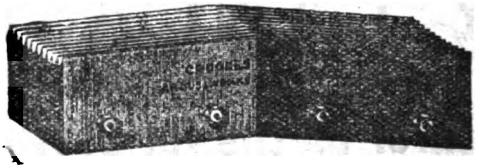

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THE

Board of Trade Journal

(With which is incorporated the "Imperial Institute Journal.")

Edited by the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

MARCH 23, 1905.

	PAGE
OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE ...	531
IMPORT TRADE OF NATAL ...	537
EUROPEAN AND UNITED STATES COMPETITION WITH THE UNITED KINGDOM.	
TRADE OF GERMAN COLONIES IN 1903 ...	539
TRADE OF FRENCH COLONIES AND POSSESSIONS IN 1903 ...	540
RAILWAY DEVELOPMENT IN PERU ...	541
TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS ...	544
SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT ...	555
MINERALS, METALS, AND MACHINERY ...	557
YARNS AND TEXTILES ...	561
AGRICULTURE ...	561
MISCELLANEOUS ...	567
STATISTICAL TABLES ...	571
GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS (BOARD OF TRADE,* FOREIGN OFFICE, COLONIAL OFFICE, &c.) ...	573

For list of contents in detail see p. vii. of Advertisements.

* *For list of principal publications of Board of Trade see p. v. of Advertisements.*

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For Shippers' and Manufacturers' Advertisements, &c. (Index of), see pages ix.-xxiv. *of Advertisements*

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CONTRACTS.

GLASGOW.—March 27th.—Steel work for bridges, for the Caledonian Railway Company. The Company's District Engineer, 3, Germiston Street. (Fee, £2 2s., returnable.)

GLASGOW.—April 5th.—Purchase of old iron and steel scrap, from the Corporation. Mr. J. Dalrymple, 46, Bath Street.

GLASGOW.—April 5th.—Iron and steel stores, for the Corporation. Mr. J. Dalrymple, 46, Bath Street, Glasgow.

HARWICH.—March 31st.—Cast-iron spigot and socket pipes, &c., for the Harwich Gas and Coke Company. The Secretary.

HOVE.—April 5th.—Supply and erecting iron fencing, &c., for the Corporation. The Borough Surveyor.

LONDON, E.C.—March 27th.—Wrought iron and steel bars, &c., for the Madras Railway Company. The Company's Offices, 1, Broad Street Place, Finsbury Circus. (Fee, non-returnable.)

MIDDLETON.—April 5th.—Iron pipe sewer, for the Corporation. The Borough Surveyor, Town Hall. (Fee, £1 1s., returnable.)

LONDON.—March 25th.—Cast iron work, &c., for the East Ham Corporation. The Town Clerk, Town Hall, East Ham, E.

LONDON.—March 30th.—Stores and tools for the Burmah Railways Company. The Company's Offices, 76, Gresham House, Old Broad Street. (Fee, 20s., non-returnable.)

BIRMINGHAM.—April 4th.—Supply and erection of 200 electric tramway cars, for the Tramways Committee. Mr. Alfred Baker, General Manager, 254A, Corporation Street, Birmingham. (Fee, £2, returnable.)

ABERDEEN.—April 3rd.—Steel girder bridge, for the Alford and Huntley District Committees. Mr. J. Barron, Central Chambers, 216, Union Street. (Fee, £1, returnable.)

RATHMINES (IRELAND).—March 27th.—Rathmines and Rathgar Urban District Council require condensing plant. Mr. George F. Pilditch, Electricity Works, Rathmines.

ST. MEDARD.—April 6th.—2,600 tons of coal, for the National Powder Factory at St. Medard.

DOUGLAS.—April 3rd.—Plant, &c., for the Water Committee. The Manager, Reservoir Works.

GLASGOW.—April 10th.—The Trustees of the Clyde Navigation require electric power generating and lighting plant. Mr. G. H. Baxter, the Mechanical Engineer. (Fee, £3 3s., returnable.)

GREAT YARMOUTH.—March 29th.—Surface condenser, &c., for the Corporation. Messrs. Preece & Cardew, 8, Queen Anne's Gate, Westminster, London, S.W. (Fee, £1 1s., returnable.)

HINDLEY (LANCS.)—March 31st.—New annular condensers, for the Gas Committee. Mr. H. O. Timmins, Engineer, Gas Works, Hindley. (Fee, £1 1s., returnable.)

HULL.—March 27th.—Extension of the Cudworth Engine shed, for the Hull and Barnsley Railway Company. The Engineer, 9, Charlotte Street.

SKIPTON.—March 25th.—Coal, engine slack, and coke, for the Joint Infectious Hospital Committee. Mr. E. Wood, Bank Buildings, Skipton.

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245 & 246, HIGH HOLBORN,
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And at 170, REGENT ROAD, LIVERPOOL.
Tele. Address—"Lignum, Liverpool."
Tele. No. 6333.
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Tele. Address—"Burmah, Newcastle on-Tyne."
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101, ST. VINCENT STREET, GLASGOW.
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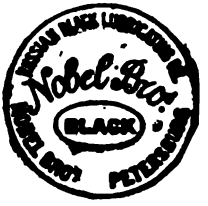

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OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH; or,
EDWARD PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

I.—ANNUAL PUBLICATIONS:—

Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions for the Year 1903 compared with the four preceding years. Volume I. [Cd. 2043/04.] Price 7*s.* 1*d.* Volume II. [Cd. 2081/04.] Price 5*s.*
Annual Statement of the Navigation and Shipping of the United Kingdom for the Year 1903. [Cd. 2122/04.] Price 3*s.* 2*d.*
Bankruptcy. Report for the Year 1903. [312/04.] Price 9d.
Coal Exports for 1903. [96/1904.] Price 3½*d.*
Coal Tables.—Statistical Tables and Report relating to Coal and Petroleum Production in the Principal Countries of the World, 1883—1903. [295/04.] Price 5½*d.*
Colonial Import Duties Return, 1904. [Cd. 2185/04.] Price 2*s.* 1*d.*
Companies (Winding Up). Thirteenth Annual Report. [311/1904.] Price 6*d.*
Emigration and Immigration.—Statistical Tables and Report, 1903. [145/04.] Price 8*d.*
Extracts from Diplomatic and Consular Reports. Coal. [343.] Price 8*d.*
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Index to Consular Reports, 1903. [Cd. 2148/04.] Price 1*s.*
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Labour Department.—Changes in Wages and Hours of Labour. [Cd. 2199/04.] Price 7*d.*
Labour Department.—Report by the Chief Labour Correspondent on the Strikes and Lock-outs of 1903, with Statistical Tables. [Cd. 2112/04.] Price 7*d.*
Life Assurance Companies' Return, 1904. [I./1905.] Price 3*s.*
Patent Office.—Report for the Year 1903. [178/04.] Price 5½*d.*
Railway Returns for the United Kingdom, 1903. [Cd. 2193/04.] Price 1*s.* 4*d.*
Shipping Casualties—Abstracts of Returns of Shipping Casualties on or near the Coasts of the United Kingdom, 1902-03 (with Charts and Appendices). [Cd. 2212/04.] Price 4*s.* 7*d.*
Statistical Abstract for the United Kingdom. 1889-1903. [Cd. 2192/1904.] Price 1*s.* 3d.
Statistical Abstract for the British Empire, 1889-1903. [Cd. 2395.] Price 6*d.*
Statistical Abstract for the Colonies. 1889-1903. [Cd. 1912/04.] Price 1*s.* 10*d.*
Statistical Abstract for Foreign Countries. 1892 to 1901-02. [Cd. 2202/04.] Price 1*s.* 6*d.*
Statistical Tables relating to British Colonies, Possessions, and Protectorates. Part XXVII. 1902. [Cd. 2184/04.] Price 7*s.*
Tables showing the Progress of Merchant Shipping in the United Kingdom and the principal maritime countries, 1903. [294/1904.] Price 9*d.*
Tramways and Light Railways (Street and Road) Return. [310/05.] Price 6*d.*

II.—MONTHLY RETURNS—

Accounts relating to Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for each month during the Year. February, 1905. [25-I/05.] Price 1*s.* 1*d.*
Accounts relating to the Trade and Commerce of certain Foreign Countries and British Possessions. [82.XI./1905.] Price 4½*d.*

III.—OCCASIONAL RETURNS:—

Agricultural Products (Exportation). United Kingdom and Continental Countries. [313.] Price 1*d.*
British and Foreign Trade and Industry Memoranda, Statistical Tables and Charts. [Cd. 1761/1903.] Price 3*s.* 6*d.*
British and Foreign Trade and Industry. Second Series of Memoranda, Statistical Tables and Charts. [Cd. 2337.] Price 3*s.* 6*d.*
British Colonies (Duties on Imports). No. 299/03. Price ½*d.*
Canada (Preferential Tariff for Goods from the United Kingdom). 310/03 Price ½*d.*
Certificates of Origin. Memorandum. [Cd. 1446/03.] Price 3*d.*
Commercial Mission to South Africa.—Report from the Special Commissioner appointed by the Board of Trade. [Cd. 1844/03.] Price 1*s.* 6*d.*
Commercial Mission to Persia.—Reports from the Special Commissioner appointed by the Board of Trade. [Cd. 2146.] Price 1*s.* 3*d.* [Cd. 2281.] Price 1½*d.*
Commercial Travellers. Memorandum. [Cd. 1961.] Price 3*d.*
Conciliation (Trades Disputes) Act, 1896. Fourth Report. [Cd. 1846/03.] Price 6*d.*
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Exports from the United Kingdom of Woollen and Cotton Goods and Cutlery in 1877, 1882, 1887, &c., and 1902. [327/03.] Price ½*d.*
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Imports and Exports of United Kingdom by Groups of Countries. [214/1903.] Price ½*d.*
Labour Department.—Report by the Chief Labour Correspondent on Trade Unions in 1901, with Comparative Statistics, [Cd. 1348/02.] Price 11½*d.*
Memorandum on the comparative Statistics of Population, Industry and Commerce of the United Kingdom and some leading Foreign Countries. [Cd. 1199/1902.] Price 5½*d.*
Preferential Trade Return, showing the advantages granted to other countries in States where British trade does not enjoy most-favoured-nation treatment. [329/1903.] Price 1½*d.*
Report to the Board of Trade by the Advisory Committee on Commercial Intelligence, with reference to their Proceedings. [Cd. 2,044/04.] Price 4½*d.*
Tea and Coffee.—Statement showing the Imports of Tea and Coffee into the principal Countries of Europe, the United States, and British Colonies. [363/1902.] Price 6*d.*
Trade and Shipping of Africa, with Maps and Statistical Tables. [C. 9223/99.] Price 1*s.* 6*d.*
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Board of Trade Journal.

MARCH 23RD, 1905.

CONTENTS.

PAGE

Openings for British Trade 531

British Colonies, &c.:—

British India.—Tenders for Railway Material.

Canada.—Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.
Opening for Water-power Plant.
" " Commercial Motors.

Cape Colony.—Tenders for Police Uniforms, &c.
Opening for Electric Light and Power Plant.
" " " Cranes, Harbour Works, &c.

Natal.—Opening for Railway Material.

Foreign Countries:—
Openings for Trade in Senegal, Portugal, Spain, Italy, Bulgaria, Cuba and Panama.

Exhibition:—Geneva.

Import Trade of Natal 537
European and United States Competition with the United Kingdom.

Trade of German Colonies in 1903 539

Trade of French Colonies and Possessions in 1903 540

Railway Development in Peru 541

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations 544
Cape of Good Hope. New Zealand. St. Christopher-Nevis. Russia. Germany. Spain. Mexico. Cuba. Philippine Islands. Brazil. Japan.

Shipping and Transport 555
Facilities for Shipping Wool in New South Wales. Reduced Rates on Cape Government Railways for Goods in Transit to the Western Transvaal. Increased Depth of Water at Durban. Steamship Service from New York to British Honduras Ports. French and Algerian Railway Statistics for 1904. New Port in the Canary Islands. Port Works at Monte Video.

Minerals, Metals, and Machinery 557
Mica in Central Australia. Coal Trade of Germany in 1904. Coal, Iron and Steel Production in France in 1904. Construction of New Steamers at Palermo. Mineral Resources of Koniah. Chilean Commission to report on the Coal Industry of the Country. Chilean Commission to examine and report on the Manufacture of Railway Plant in the United States of America. Report on Copper Mine at Besshi (Japan).

Yarns and Textiles 561
Manufacture of Artificial Silk in Italy, France and Belgium.

Agriculture... 561
Cotton Cultivation in Ceylon. Offer of Land for Cocoanut Cultivation in Ceylon. Russian Butter Trade. German Sugar Production. Failure of Senegal Groundnut Crop and probable Effect on Trade. Cultivation of Truffles in Italy. Cotton Cultivation in Italy and the Congo Free State.

Miscellaneous 567
State of the Labour Market in February, 1905. Trade of Bengal with Thibet. Establishment of Cement Industry in Canada. Congress of Chambers of Commerce of South Africa. Appointment of Commission in Italy to report on the Sumach Trade. Establishment of a Citric Acid Factory at Palermo. Proposed Establishment of a State Bank in Abyssinia. Trade of the Boran Country (Abyssinia). Chilean Customs Receipts in 1904. Paper Money in Circulation in Brazil.

Statistical Tables... 571
Cotton Returns.
Corn Prices.
Imports of Agricultural Produce.

Government Publications 573
Board of Trade Returns and Labour Gazette. Note of Foreign and Colonial Office Reports, also of certain other Government Publications having a bearing upon trade issued during the week. List of Foreign Office Reports, arranged geographically, also a list of Colonial Office Reports issued since the beginning of the year.

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THE

Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. XLVIII.] March 23, 1905. [No. 434

The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The registered telegraphic address of the Branch is "Advantage, London."

A statement of the objects and work of the Commercial Intelligence Branch will be found on p. 577.

Attention is directed to the Sample Room, where there are at present on view, among other exhibits, seven samples of tobacco, grown in Jamaica, eleven samples of cotton grown within the Empire, received from the British Cotton Growing Association, also three samples of Antigua cotton received from the West India Committee.

The following Special Trade Enquiry Offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.	Queensland.
Dominion of Canada.	Cape of Good Hope.

Statements of the objects and work of the Special Trade Enquiry Offices will be found on p. 578.

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

BRITISH INDIA.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS: INDIA OFFICE.

The Secretary of State for India in Council is prepared to receive tenders from such persons as may be willing to supply—

Railway Material.

1. Bearing plates for rails.
2. 152 ft. spans for road bridge.
3. Brass boiler tubes.
4. Copper firebox plates.
5. Wheels and axles for carriages and waggons.
6. Springs, laminated.
7. Springs, spiral and volute.

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Openings for British Trade.

The conditions of contract may be seen on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.), or may be obtained on application to the Director-General of Stores, India Office, Whitehall, S.W. Tenders are to be delivered at the latter office by 2 p.m. on Tuesday, the 28th March, 1905, for Nos. 1 to 5; and on Tuesday, the 4th April, 1905, for Nos. 6 and 7, after which times respectively no tender will be received.

CANADA.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following trade enquiries have been received at the Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—A firm in a position to purchase large quantities of broom and shovel handles invite quotations from Canadian manufacturers.

The sole manufacturers of a patent electric illuminant wish to be placed in communication with a first-class Canadian electrical firm who would be prepared to act as sole Canadian agents.

A firm of merchants and shippers dealing in woollens and cotton goods, and also under a separate establishment dealing in earthenware, hardware, &c., wish to be placed in communication with Canadian importers of these goods.

Canadian Enquiry.—A manufacturers' agent in Toronto is willing to represent United Kingdom producers of articles sold to chemists, confectioners, and grocers. Can furnish United Kingdom references.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

Water Power Plant.

According to "Hardware and Metal" (Montreal) of the 4th March, a big project to develop the water power of Grand Falls has been laid before the New Brunswick Government. The project includes the manufacture of ferro-manganese at the Falls, the working of pulp, paper and saw mills, the operation of an international railway by electricity and the transmission of electric power between the St. John River Valley, to be sold for use in lighting and manufacturing as far as St. John. The project will involve an outlay of from 3,000,000 dols. to 4,000,000 dols.

Commercial Motors in Toronto.

The "Canadian Implement and Vehicle Trade" (Toronto) states that, so far, the commercial automobile has not been much in evidence on the streets of Toronto. Recent developments, however, would seem to indicate that the delivery of parcels and even heavy goods by electric motor is a possibility in that city in the near future.

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Openings for British Trade.

Mr. E. M. Trowern, Secretary of the Retail Merchants' Association, returned recently from Detroit and Cleveland, where he inspected the motor delivery wagons and drays in use in those cities. His report, which has been presented to the general association for consideration, is favourable to the adoption of the electric motor delivery system.

CAPE COLONY.

Uniforms, &c., for Police.

The "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" of 28th February announces that sealed tenders will be received at the office of the Controller and Auditor-General, Cape Town, until noon on the 10th May, 1905, from persons willing to supply any or all of the articles enumerated in the "Gazette" (uniforms, boots, helmets, &c.), required for the use of the police for a period of five years from the 1st July, 1905.

Standard samples of the articles required to be supplied can be inspected in Cape Town, at the Police and Government Stores Depôt, and in London at the Offices of the Agent-General for the Cape of Good Hope, 100, Victoria Street, S.W., and persons tendering will be presumed to have made themselves acquainted with the description and quality of the articles required.

It must be distinctly understood that the Government does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender, and that it reserves to itself the option of accepting any portion or portions of any tender without the whole.

The "Gazette," containing a schedule of the articles required and a copy of the form of tender, may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

Electric Light and Power Plant.

The same issue of the "Gazette" contains a notice of the intention of the Town Council of Beaconsfield to introduce into the Cape Parliament a Bill to authorise and empower the Council to construct the works necessary for the supply of electrical energy for lighting, power and traction purposes within the municipality.

Electric Cranes: Harbour Works.

A Capetown despatch to the "Natal Mercury" states that among the recommendations contained in the report of the Harbour Board Commission are the following, viz.:—That authorised works, absorbing about 126,000*l.*, be proceeded with as soon as possible; that authority be granted to the Harbour Board to spend another 60,000*l.* for additional electric cranes; that the work on the quay wall and reclamation and the breakwater extension be proceeded with steadily after Parliament has seen fit to provide further sums

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on account of the 11,301,200*l.* authorised in 1902, the 600,000*l.* provided on account being nearly exhausted; that landing, shipping, and delivery continue to be undertaken by the Board, and that no efforts be spared to make the coaling arrangements such as will tend to tempt vessels not calling at Durban to coal at Cape Town.

The report also recommends the institution of a Marine Department of the Government Service to control the harbours in place of the Harbour Boards.

NATAL.

Railway Material.

The "Natal Government Gazette" of 21st February contains the text of a Government Bill, which it is intended to introduce into the Natal Parliament during the ensuing session, to empower the Governor to make, maintain and equip a line of railway from the Umlaas Road station to a point at or near Mid-Illovo.

FRANCE—SENEGAL.

Electric Light and Power Installation.

With reference to the notice on p. 441 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 9th March respecting a proposed electric light and power installation at Dakar, a further despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul at Dakar (Capt. C. F. Cromie) reporting that tenders are now invited for this work, and transmitting a copy of the conditions and requirements laid down. In these it is provided that the whole of the material must be of French origin and conveyed in French ships.

PORTUGAL.

Electric Tramway Plant.

The "Diario do Governo" of 1st March publishes a Decree granting the Lisbon Tramways Company the right to construct and work an electric tramway in Lisbon between the Rua do Ouro and the Largo de Santo André.

SPAIN.

Development of Spanish West African Territories.

With reference to the announcement published on p. 344 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 23rd February, a despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Ambassador at Madrid (Sir A. Nicolson) forwarding translation of a Royal Decree, and of its accompanying explanatory statement, authorising the reception of public tenders for the development and colonization, by a public Company, of the Spanish territories of Rio Muni, on the West Coast of Africa.

Proposals or applications may be presented by the persons interested, or by persons authorised by them to act, or their legitimate representative, on the 15th May, at noon, in the Ministry of State, before a Committee of the "Junta Consultiva" nominated

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Openings for British Trade.

SPAIN—*continued.*

for that object, and a caution money of 100,000 pesetas will have to be deposited.

The Company must have its domicile in Spain and have a Council of Administration of which the President, Secretary, and the majority of members must be Spanish subjects.

The translation may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

Lighthouse Syrens.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 18th March publishes Decrees authorising the Minister of Agriculture, Industry, Commerce, and Public Works to expend 85,181 pesetas (about 2,552*l.*) on the purchase, transport, and erection of a syren in the Corrobedo lighthouse, and 86,277 pesetas (about 2,585*l.*) on a similar installation in the Sisargas Islands lighthouse.

ITALY.

Water Power Plant.

The "Bollettino delle Finanze" (Rome) of 12th March states that the Ancona Provincial Council have unanimously voted a monetary prize for the best scheme for utilising the water power of the Sentino for electric lighting and other industrial purposes, and possibly for an electric railway to connect the two lines which run on each side of the Misa valley. It has been proposed to dam up the Sentino and construct a reservoir capable of holding 15,000,000 cubic metres ot water; this, with a fall of 40 metres, would furnish about 1,200 horse power. This project would involve an expenditure of 2,000,000 lire (about 80,000*l.*).

The same issue of the "Bollettino" notifies a concession granted by the Prefect of Turin to Signor Antonio Vandano for an appropriation of water from the Dora Baltea, district of Mazzé, for the production of power for industrial purposes.

The "Bollettino" further states that an application has been received by the Prefect of Ascoli Piceno from Signor Marco Marcantoni, of Cupramarittima, for an appropriation of water from the river Aso, in the commune of Carassai, for the production of power for electric lighting purposes in San Benedetto, Grottamare, Cupramarittima, and other places.

Railway Plant.

The "Gazetta Ufficiale" of 17th March notifies a concession granted to the Società Veneta for the construction and working, for a term of 35 years, of a normal gauge industrial steam railway from Thiene to Rocchette, and a narrow gauge railway from Rocchette to Asiago.

The "Gazetta" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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Openings for British Trade.

BULGARIA.

Waterworks.

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" (Brussels) of 15th March states that the Municipality of Bourgas invite tenders for the establishment of a system of water supply in that town. No date has yet been fixed for the adjudication.

CUBA.

Wharf Construction.

The "Gaceta Oficial" of Cuba of 6th March publishes a Decree granting Señor Silvestre Scovel a concession for the construction of a wharf, with all necessary mechanical appliances, in Havana, and of a building to be used as a Custom House for that port, the present Custom House having become too small for the requirements of the trade.

The "Gaceta" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

PANAMA.

Public Building and Lighthouse Construction.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul at Panama (Mr. C. Mallet), that the Secretary of Public Works of the Republic of Panama has invited tenders for the construction of the following works :—

A police station, gaol, and Government House at Bocas del Toro; and the erection of a lighthouse at Darwood Point on the Island of Bastimentos.

Forms of "proposals," plans and all details connected with the works can be seen at the Secretary's office daily, between 3 and 5 p.m., and tenders will be opened on 30th April.

EXHIBITION.

SWITZERLAND.

National Exhibition of Automobiles and Cycles.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul at Geneva (Sir G. Phillippo), transmitting a copy of the regulations for the first Swiss National Exhibition of automobiles and cycles to be held at that city. This exhibition, which will be open from the 29th April to the 7th May, is reserved to Swiss manufacturers and to traders in Switzerland selling foreign productions. H.M. Consul adds that it is proposed to hold such an exhibition annually.

The regulations referred to above may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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IMPORT TRADE OF NATAL.*

European and United States Competition with the United Kingdom.

With reference to the article published at pp. 456–8 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 9th March, giving statistics of the trade of Natal in 1904, the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from their Correspondent at Port Natal (Mr. A. D. C. Agnew), the following statement of the imports of certain goods by sea into Natal from (1) European Countries, (2) United States of America, and (3) United Kingdom during the years 1903 and 1904:—

Goods.	European Countries.		United States of America.		United Kingdom.	
	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Agricultural implements	12,400	5,800	65,700	35,200	52,000	24,800
Ale, beer, and cider ...	19,000	8,600	1,400	—	43,700	44,000
Apothecary ware ...	12,600	11,600	3,700	3,500	74,400	50,700
Apparel	27,800	31,900	9,000	7,500	607,000	305,000
Bicycles and motor vehicles	11,000	13,000	3,700	3,800	106,100	71,000
Boots and shoes... ...	25,300	29,200	30,000	21,750	345,500	231,500
Boxes, cardboard ...	17,700	19,000	800	1,100	4,500	2,800
Brushware	5,500	3,200	2,000	1,500	17,800	13,000
Candles	1,600	1,000	5,000	17,000	46,000	39,000
Carriages and carts ...	3,200	450	57,500	32,000	42,700	22,000
Cement	49,000	30,400	—	150	26,100	17,000
Cottons, printed and dyed	13,400	12,700	1,000	400	70,200	27,700
Cottons, blankets and sheets	23,400	4,500	—	—	48,800	13,400
Earthenware	14,500	8,000	1,100	1,000	59,100	36,700
Electric fittings ...	6,700	6,900	6,000	2,800	47,300	24,200
Fencing wire, &c. ...	8,200	19,600	12,800	12,250	10,100	7,250
Furniture, upholstery, and floorcloths ...	41,500	23,900	48,000	21,600	285,700	126,700
Glass, bottles	4,700	6,800	300	1,550	21,300	18,300
„ window	10,500	12,700	—	—	17,900	15,250
„ glassware ...	19,100	11,500	1,500	700	29,300	13,700
Haberdashery and millinery	111,500	139,000	5,000	3,000	902,700	451,300
Hardware and cutlery...	38,000	29,100	65,000	44,300	344,000	196,500
Hats, all kinds	3,200	3,300	3,600	1,850	58,400	34,400
Hops	4,100	2,350	500	100	5,700	5,900
Hosiery	5,700	1,900	600	1,200	97,200	40,000
Ironmongery	4,100	4,600	8,400	6,100	84,800	45,000
Iron and steel—						
Girders	12,200	1,100	7,000	1,150	28,000	20,000
Bolts and rivets ...	200	700	3,300	1,350	13,000	7,700
Wire netting ...	1,700	1,700	—	50	7,500	4,900
Railway material ...	35,700	11,500	1,000	3,500	19,400	39,700
Nails	8,000	3,300	5,700	2,700	10,200	2,900
Carried forward ...	551,500	459,300	349,600	229,100	3,526,400	1,952,300

* For previous article on the subject of foreign competition with the United Kingdom in the import trade of Natal, see "Board of Trade Journal" of 27th October last, pp. 162–3.

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Import Trade of Natal (continued).

Goods.	European Countries.		United States of America.		United Kingdom.	
	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Brought forward ...	551,500	459,300	349,600	229,100	3,526,400	1,925,300
Lampware	7,000	4,800	6,100	4,800	12,400	6,500
Leather manufactures...	5,200	3,150	1,500	1,300	31,200	12,400
Machinery—						
Agricultural ...	230	850	4,000	8,150	12,400	10,000
Electrical	19,800	20,700	24,000	21,250	95,800	107,000
Mining	76,500	5,400	6,500	19,400	80,000	80,000
Other	25,100	2,500	45,000	7,400	363,000	215,000
Dutiable	8,300	11,600	15,600	28,400	12,700	3,000
Milk, condensed ...	12,100	20,400	8,800	29,000	105,900	102,000
Musical instruments ...	51,400	36,000	8,500	7,500	41,300	16,000
Oilman's stores	1,100	1,200	9,400	8,600	32,000	24,000
Oils (*not* paraffin and linseed)	2,700	1,600	29,000	1,500	10,500	2,000
Painter's colours ...	1,300	1,600	5,000	8,600	53,600	35,000
Paper—						
Printing	6,700	9,300	4,000	7,000	31,000	19,800
Wrapping and brown	3,700	4,800	—	150	7,000	5,700
Bags	200	600	2,200	1,000	4,700	4,200
Paperhangings	2,100	4,200	—	1,000	14,800	11,600
Perfumery	4,500	4,200	1,200	1,500	12,000	8,100
Saddlery and harness ...	1,200	1,050	1,600	1,200	107,700	28,300
Sewing machines ...	5,400	2,000	2,500	2,100	22,400	16,200
Spirits, not perfumed ...	53,000	55,000	2,700	350	224,700	146,000
Stationery	7,500	11,900	2,300	3,000	102,000	69,000
Stoves	4,100	3,100	14,000	11,000	32,300	18,700
Woollens—						
Piece	2,800	2,500	—	100	23,400	15,700
Blankets, rugs, and sheets	7,900	4,000	—	50	193,000	59,500
Totals ... £	861,330	671,750	543,500	402,850	5,152,200	2,968,000

Making due allowance for any errors in declarations of the countries of origin which may have been made, it is evident, remarks Mr. Agnew, that the volume of trade in the important classes of goods included above has fallen off very much less in foreign countries than in the United Kingdom.

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TRADE OF THE GERMAN COLONIES IN 1903.

The following statistics of the trade of the German Colonial Possessions are extracted from an official report recently issued by the German Government.

The value of the imports and exports of each Colony during the year 1903, as compared with the preceding year, was as follows:—

Colony.	1902.		1903.	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
	Marks.	Marks.	Marks.	Marks.
German East Africa	8,858,000	5,283,000	11,188,000	7,054,000
Cameroons	13 276,000	6.264,000	9,542.000	7,577,000
Togoland	6,206,000	4,194,000	6,105,000	3,616,000
German South-West Africa ...	8,563,000	2,213,000	7,931,000	3,443,000
New Guinea—				
Bismarck Archipelago ...	1,715,000	919,000	2,115,000	963,000
Kaiser-Wilhelm's Land ...	573,000	202,000	799,000	244,000
Marianne Islands	58,000	176,000	72,000	231,000
Caroline Islands (West) ...	121,000	116,000	442,000	359,000
" " (East) ...	321,000	166,000	339,000	181,000
Marshall Islands	488,000	505,000	498,000	522,000
Samoa	2,603,000	1,692,000	2,681,000	1,385,000
Total ... Marks	42,787,000	21,730.000	41,712,000	25,575,000
Total ... £	2,139,000	1,086,000	2,086,000	1,279,000

It should be noted that the 1903 figures for German East Africa and Cameroons are not properly comparable with those given for 1902. The 1903 figures taken on the same basis as the 1902 figures would be as follow:—

	Imports.	Exports.
East Africa	8,730,027 m. ...	6,738,906 m.
Cameroons	13,982,702 m. ...	7,577,456 m.

Of the total import trade of the German Colonies in 1903, 22,196,320 marks worth (or nearly one half) came from Germany, and her share of the export trade (11,578,822 marks) shows about the same proportion. The share of the United Kingdom in the import trade was 3,849,244 marks worth, or about 9 per cent., and in the export trade 3,797,902 marks, or about 15 per cent.

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TRADE OF FRENCH COLONIES AND POSSESSIONS IN 1903.*

The "Feuille de Renseignements" (issued by the French Colonial Office) publishes detailed statistics of the import and export trade of the French Colonies and Dependencies, from which it appears that the total value of such trade in 1903 amounted to 794,312,000 francs, as compared with 840,955,000 francs in the preceding year. These totals were made up as follows:—

—	1902.	1903.
	Francs.	Francs.
Imports into French Colonies	444,746,000	447,255,000
Exports from " "	396,209,000	347,057,000
Total	840,955,000	794,312,000

The following comparative statement shows the total value of the import trade of the various Colonies and Dependencies in 1902 and 1903:—

Imports.

Into	1902.				1903.			
	From France.	From French Colonies.	From Foreign Countries.	Total.	From France.	From French Colonies.	From Foreign Countries.	Total.
	1,000 francs.	1,000 francs.	1,000 francs.	1,000 francs.	1,000 francs.	1,000 francs.	1,000 francs.	1,000 francs.
Senegal ...	18,234	2,210	15,426	35,870	25,800	2,809	23,054	51,663
Guinea ...	5,969	39	6,633	12,641	5,919	55	11,969	17,943
Ivory Coast ...	2,292	123	7,890	10,305	2,069	40	6,969	9,078
Dahomey ...	3,712	—	13,378	17,090	2,089	—	9,175	11,264
Congo... ...	2,736	8	2,943	5,687	3,317	13	3,648	6,978
Réunion ...	9,114	2,685	6,714	18,513	12,039	1,339	8,131	21,509
Madagascar ...	31,679	4,325	6,285	42,289	27,845	1,180	3,874	32,899
Mayotte ...	729	431	606	1,766	650	356	709	1,715
Somali Coast...	2,792	89	4,484	7,365	1,672	33	5,825	7,530
India (French)	625	47	3,787	4,459	2,281	31	7,008	9,320
Indo-China ...	106,580	1,642	106,941	215,163	94,239	3,157	106,858	204,254
New Caledonia	7,352	234	5,861	13,447	7,536	234	5,902	13,672
Tahiti... ...	615	—	3,298	3,913	686	—	3,221	3,907
St. Pierre et Miquelon ...	4,140	114	4,782	9,036	4,201	24	4,081	8,306
Guadeloupe ...	8,834	891	7,394	17,119	8,789	422	7,148	16,359
Martinique ...	9,488	1,128	8,503	19,119	10,469	1,070	8,851	20,390
French Guiana	7,416	373	3,175	10,964	6,738	258	3,472	10,468
Total 1,000frs.	222,307	14,339	208,100	444,746	216,339	11,021	219,895	447,255
Total £	8,892,000	574,000	8,324,000	17,790,000	8,654,000	440,000	8,796,000	17,890,000

* Exclusive of Algeria and Tunis.

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Trade of French Colonies and Possessions in 1903.

The value of the total exports from each of the French Colonies and Dependencies in 1902 and 1903 is shown in the following table:—

Exports.

From	1902.				1903.			
	To France.	To French Colonies.	To Foreign Countries	Total.	To France.	To French Colonies.	To Foreign Countries.	Total.
	1,000 francs.	1,000 francs.	1,000 francs.	1,000 francs.	1,000 francs.	1,000 francs.	1,000 francs.	1,000 francs.
Senegal ...	19,700	67	5,796	25,563	29,218	59	11,353	40,630
Guinea ...	2,053	152	9,049	11,254	2,626	215	11,250	14,091
Ivory Coast ...	2,433	9	4,670	7,112	2,567	8	5,038	7,613
Dahomey ...	4,159	91	9,419	13,669	3,031	16	6,493	9,540
Congo... ...	2,369	—	6,060	8,429	3,114	—	6,824	9,938
Réunion ...	11,406	941	439	12,786	18,373	348	471	19,192
Madagascar ...	6,212	564	6,369	13,145	9,884	683	5,704	16,271
Mayotte ...	2,380	186	130	2,696	2,198	105	79	2,382
Somali Coast...	355	120	10,283	10,758	233	117	10,101	10,451
India (French).	14,882	3,270	9,401	27,553	10,538	3,712	13,809	28,059
Indo-China ...	36,820	3,482	144,965	185,267	19,842	111	100,496	120,449
New Caledonia	4,051	26	8,206	12,283	2,449	6	6,509	8,964
Tahiti... ...	646	—	3,652	4,298	827	—	3,851	4,678
St. Pierre et Miquelon ...	9,692	1,602	1,002	12,296	7,548	1,094	911	9,553
Guadeloupe ...	15,735	932	91	16,758	16,928	748	136	17,812
Martinique ...	14,856	400	1,479	16,735	13,468	452	1,184	15,104
French Guiana	14,865	247	495	15,607	11,470	12	848	12,330
Total 1,000frs.	162,614	12,089	221,506	396,209	154,314	7,686	185,057	347,057
Total £	6,505,000	484,000	8,860,000	15,848,000	6,173,000	307,000	7,402,000	13,882,000

RAILWAY DEVELOPMENT IN PERU.

In the course of a recent report on railways in Peru, the United States Consul at Callao remarks that the present administration of the country has infused new blood and renewed vigour into Peruvian affairs. The country, which for some years past has been free from those internal political upheavals so prejudicial to commerce and industry, has come to a general realisation that the chief work lying before it consists in developing the region known as the "montaña," the vast and almost virgin territory east of the Andes, as well as in the establishment of connections by land between its cities. Roads and transit facilities, therefore, are what chiefly occupy the public attention, and the Department of "Fomento" (public works) has laid out a programme of railway construction.

Some particulars of the proposals regarding these projected railways were given on pp. 396-7 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 3rd March, 1904, and pp. 7-8 of the issue for 7th April, 1904,

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and the following details contained in the report referred to above, amplify those already given:—

Oroya to Huancayo.—A commission of Government engineers were, at the date of the report, finishing the survey of a railway between Oroya and Huancayo, which will have an approximate length of 21 kilometres (13 miles). The work of construction was to be begun by the Government in January, 1905. The route is through a well-populated valley, rich in agricultural products. coal, and copper. The starting point (Oroya) is the terminus of the present Trasandine railway, so that the new project will afford direct rail connection between Jauja and Huancayo, and Lima and its port, Callao. The importance of this line to Peru cannot be overestimated. Owing to the variety of altitude, this country is capable of producing, and does produce, the crops of the temperate, as well as those of the torrid, zone, so that an interchange of agricultural products between the mountainous interior and the coast is of great importance as regards the distribution of food supplies. Doubtless the new line will also make accessible to the coast a large mineral region, susceptible of much development.

Sicuani to Cuzco.—Cuzco, the ancient capital of the Incas, the centre of an interior region which is both mining and agricultural, is accessible only by stage-coach road from Sicuani. Sicuani is connected at the Juliaca junction with the existing railway between Puno, on Lake Titicaca, and the port of Mollendo. It is over this latter railway that all the exports of Bolivia must travel for shipment. The Sicuani-Cuzco line, the actual construction of which was to be begun in January or February by the Government (it has already been thoroughly surveyed and studied), is to have an approximate length of 140 kilometres (87 miles). It runs through good agricultural regions, and will serve to transport passengers and cargo for the Cuzco district, as well as agricultural and other exports from Cuzco to the coast.

Oroya to the Ucayali.—A railway with an approximate length of 400 kilometres (284·5 miles) is now under Government survey, and construction is to be begun in 1906. This line is confidently looked to as opening a new field for Peruvian enterprise and for foreign colonisation as well. The exact terminus is not yet fixed, but will be at some navigable point on the river Ucayali, which empties into the Amazon.

Piura to Pongo de Manseriche.—The concession for the building of this railway has been granted to the Pacific Company (American). The line is to be about 500 kilometres (310 miles) long, and will run from Piura, the centre of the Peruvian cotton-growing industry, over the shortest practicable distance to some navigable point on the river Maranon, below the Pongo de Manseriche. The Maranon flows directly into the Amazon, so that this line, like the Oroya-Ucayali line, will serve to connect the great trans-

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continental waterway with the Pacific coast. The construction of the line is to be begun in 1907, and to be completed within ten years' time.

The building of this railway, says the Consul, is of immense importance, not only commercially, but politically and strategically, to Peru, whose immense and valuable trans-Andine possessions can be developed and held free from encroachment only by means of efficient transit facilities between the more populous coast section (cis-Andine Peru) and the "montaña," or practically virgin country beyond the Cordillera (trans-Andine Peru). This "montaña" country, which is drained by numberless rivers—the headwaters of the Amazon—is full of possibilities, and would be more extensively colonised were it not that its remoteness has, until now, forbidden its approach by any but the more venturesome. Still there is a flourishing town at Iquitos, which does an export and import business (*viâ* the Amazon and Brazilian ports) utterly out of proportion to its size or remote location. The banks of the rivers are also dotted here and there with smaller trading posts, where many persons have accumulated wealth, bartering manufactured goods for rubber and other native products of the semi-civilised Indian tribes. The rubber, incidentally, is of the highest-priced sort known to commerce, and is generally known in the world's markets from its (Brazilian) exporting point as "Pará rubber."

Lima to Pisco.—This railway, which is to extend some 225 kilometres (140 miles), is intended to connect Lima with the port of Pisco, the centre of the grape and brandy industry of Peru, and will traverse a number of agricultural and stock-raising valleys. It is thought that when the line is completed the present high cost of living in Lima will be decreased by from 33 to 40 per cent., most of Lima's produce, charcoal, beef, &c., coming from this region. It may also tend to lower the abnormally high freight and passenger rates charged by the two merged steamship companies which traffic on the coast—a considerable hindrance to local commerce at present. The Government has offered a guarantee of 7 per cent. annual interest on the capital invested in this line up to 500,000*l.*, and it is said that a British syndicate already controlling certain railways in Peru will undertake its construction.

Chimbote to Recuay.—The railway from Chimbote (one of the best natural harbours on the west coast of South America) to Recuay is to be some 220 kilometres (137 miles) in length, and will reach into a wealthy mineral region, as well as traverse coal fields of considerable magnitude. The harbour of Chimbote is important. It is said, on excellent authority, that a British syndicate has been formed to construct this line.

Bayovar to Sechura.—Twenty-five kilometres (15·5 miles) of railway are now under construction between the port of Bayovar, in northern Peru, and the sulphur beds at Sechura. This is the work of private enterprise interested in the sulphur deposits.

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Railway Development in Peru.

In concluding his report, the Consul remarks that the present Government of Peru have among their chief aims that of covering the country with a network of railways and of doing all that is possible to encourage foreign immigration and colonisation. They are prepared to give concessionnaires valuable considerations in the way of land grants, guaranteeing a certain percentage on the amounts invested, &c.

TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Special Duties on the Importation of Bounty-fed Sugar.

With reference to the notice which appeared on p. 406 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 2nd March last relating to the imposition of *special* duties on sugar imported into Natal, from countries not parties to the Brussels Convention of 1902, the Board of Trade have now received a copy of the "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" for 28th February, giving Customs Regulations issued on 27th February, 1905, under section 7 of Act 5 of 1903, and which provide for the imposition of special duties on bounty-fed sugar imported into the Cape of Good Hope.

These regulations, which have effect from 1st September, 1903, are similar in all respects to those already published for Natal in the above-mentioned issue of the "Board of Trade Journal."

NEW ZEALAND.

Customs Decisions.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of the "New Zealand Gazette" for 12th January last, containing a Commissioner's Order (No. 761), issued on 11th January, 1905, giving various Customs decisions relating to the rates of duty leviable on the undermentioned articles imported into New Zealand:—

Articles, and how classed.	Rates of Duty.
Mattress pads of felt—	
As drapery, n.o.e.	20 % *ad val.*
Fanning mill—	
As machinery for agricultural purposes	Free
*Machine, web rolling and brushing for merino finish—	
As machinery for woollen mills	5 % *ad val.*
Tramways, cable, "lay-outs" for—	
As tramway plant and materials, n.o.e.	20 "

* Revised decision.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

NEW ZEALAND—*continued.*

Customs Decision: Cream of Tartar.

The Governor of New Zealand issued an Order (No. 171) on 21st January last, under which a duty of 1*d.* per lb. is leviable on "Bush's cream of tartar" (being a substitute for cream of tartar) on importation into the Colony.

ST. CHRISTOPHER—NEVIS.

Continuation of Export Duties on Sugar and Rum to end of 1905.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of the "Export Duty Continuation Ordinance, 1904" (No. 7 of 1904) by which the Export duties imposed upon sugar and rum, under Ordinance No. 1 of 1898, are continued until 31st December, 1905.

NOTE.—The export duties which are imposed on sugar and rum under Ordinance No. 1 of 1898 are as follows:—

Article.	Rate of Export Duty.
	s. d.
Sugar—	
Not exceeding 42 in. truss ... ...per hogshead	4 8
" 30 " " ... ... " tierce	3 2
In barrels ... ... " barrel	0 6½
In other packages ... ... " ton	4 8
Rum ... ... " 100 galls.	3 6

Excise Duty: Continuation of additional Duty to end of 1905.

A copy of an Ordinance (No. 6 of 1904) has also been received, continuing until 31st December, 1905, the "Rum Duty Ordinance No. 6 of 1896," by which an *additional* duty of 20 per cent. was imposed on the duty of 3*s.* per proof gallon leviable under Ordinance No. 3 of 1892, upon rum manufactured in the Presidency of St. Christopher-Nevis.

RUSSIA.

Tariff Classification of Mantles for Incandescent Light.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that the Russian Customs Department have notified that annealed mantles for incandescent light are to be dutiable on importation into Russia under Article 169 of the Tariff as "physical apparatus for intensifying light," at the rate of 10 rbls. 20 cop. per poud (7½*d.* per lb.).

Similar mantles, not annealed, of textile materials, even if impregnated with a mineral substance, are to pay duty according to the material of which they are made.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

RUSSIA—*continued.*

Classification of Inhalers and parts thereof.

The Board of Trade have also received information, through the Foreign Office, to the effect that the Russian Customs Department have notified that inhalers and parts thereof are to be dutiable on importation under No. 169 of the Tariff, at the rate of 10 roubles 20 copecks per poud (7¼*d.* per lb.).

GERMANY.

Customs Decisions.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, translations of certain orders recently issued by the Hamburg Customs Authorities affecting the classification for Tariff purposes of certain articles imported into the German Customs Union. The following is the substance of these orders:—

Olive oil, pure, not denatured, is dutiable under No. 26 of the Tariff at the rate of 3 or 10 marks per 100 kilogs. (according as it is imported in casks or in other vessels), even if, as in the case of "lavat oil" and "sulphur oil," it is not capable of being used for table purposes.

Woven woollen tapestry (so-called *kilims* or *kelims*, imported from Asia Minor) consisting of two materials sewn together so as to form a complete pattern which takes the form of different kinds of raised figures, is dutiable under No. 41*d.* 5*a* of the Tariff at the rate of 135 marks per 100 kilogs. (7¼*d.* per lb.).

Coarsely-ground cork waste.—Only cork in pieces which are proved by their whole character to be unworked waste from the manufacture of cork is to be admitted free of duty under No. 13*a* of the Tariff. Cork waste prepared for use in the manufacture of cork-stone slabs, bicycle-handles, linoleum, and other cork goods is to pay duty under No. 13*d.* at the rate of 3 marks per 100 kilogs. gross (1*s.* 6¼*d.* per cwt.).

Pipe connection pieces which, after completion of the casting, have been subjected to a further process to remove the casting scale, are dutiable under No. 6*e* 2*b* of the Tariff, at the rate of 10 marks per 100 kilogs. (5*s.* 1*d.* per cwt.).

SPAIN.

Drawback Allowed on Exportation of Neutral Alcohols and Spirits.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" for the 4th February contains the text of a Royal Order, dated the 26th January, bringing neutral alcohols and spirits within the scope of those provisions of the Law of the 19th July, 1904*, under which drawback of manufacturing tax is paid on the alcohol contained in certain products exported from Spain.

* *See* "Board or Trade Journal" for the 6th October, 1904, pp. 27-8.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

SPAIN—*continued.*

Rate of Exchange for Adjustment of Customs Duties payable in Gold.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 16th March contains a Royal Order notifying that the average rate of exchange (premium of exchange on Paris) during the first fortnight of March was 31·72 per cent., and that the corresponding reduction in payments of Customs duties which have to be made in gold during the first fortnight of the present month is to be 24 per cent.

MEXICO.

Consumption Tax on Explosives.

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 22 of the "Journal" for the 2nd July, 1903, relative to a consumption tax on explosives manufactured in, or imported into, Mexico, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy of a despatch from H.M. Consul at Mexico reporting that a Decree putting in force the new duty of 21 centavos per kilog. gross (4½*d.* per lb.) on all explosives except black gunpowder appeared in the "Diario Oficial" for the 21st February, 1905.

CUBA.

Customs Circulars.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of a dispatch from H.M. Legation at Havana, reporting the following Decisions of the Cuban Customs Department, which were published in the Cuban "Gaceta Oficial" for the 16th February.

Reciprocity Convention with the United States.—Coffee roasted in the United States.—Coffee imported into the United States, there roasted, and then exported to Cuba, is not entitled to the special reduction of import duty accorded to certain products of the soil or industry of the United States by the Reciprocity Convention between that Power and Cuba. In order that goods manufactured in the United States from imported materials may benefit under that Convention as products of the "industry" of the United States, it is necessary that the imported materials undergo a transformation, completely altering their nature, and thereby constituting a different product, *e.g.*, furniture from wood, tissues from silk or wool, drugs from salts.

Bills of lading.—A further circular appearing in the same issue of the "Gaceta" enjoins the strict enforcement of the regulation under which the master of a vessel is required to present, with his declaration, a copy of the bill of lading; and lays down the procedure to be adopted in the event of the absence of this document, or of its showing erasures or corrections.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

New Customs Tariff.

Adverting to the notices which appeared in the "Journal" for the 19th and 26th January, and for the 2nd February, on the subject of proposed changes in the Customs Tariff of the Philippines, the Board of Trade have now received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of an Act of the United States Congress revising and amending the Tariff Laws of the Philippine Islands, as approved on the 3rd inst.

A copy of the Act, which comes into force on the 2nd May next, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

BRAZIL.

Freedom of Commerce between the States of the Union. Date of Operation of Law.

With reference to the notice which appeared at pp. 215–6 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 4th August last relative to a Brazilian Law freeing from all duties (other than export duties) the interchange of merchandise, national or foreign, between the various States and Municipalities of Brazil, it is to be noted that the "Diario Oficial" for the 24th December contains the Regulations which have been drawn up to give effect to this Law. From Article I. of these Regulations it appears that the Law came into force on the 1st January last.

The "Diario" containing the Regulations may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

JAPAN.

Forthcoming Increase of Import Duties.

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 215 of the "Journal" for the 2nd February, relative to a forthcoming increase of import duties and other forms of taxation in Japan, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a translation (in part) of the "Extraordinary Special Taxes Law" enacting the increases in question, as passed by the Japanese Diet on the 28th December last.

The following statement shows, with regard to the articles on which import duties have been increased (with the exception of those on which the duties are fixed by Treaties between Japan and other Powers), the rates of duty fixed by the Tariff of 1st April, 1903, and the amount of the increase made by the above-mentioned Special Taxes Law. These increased import duties are to take effect on the 1st July next.

[NOTE.—*Kin* = 1·32277 *lbs. avoirdupois*; *yen* = 2*s.* 0½*d.* (The cubic foot, yard, and square yard, are those of the English system; the gallon is the standard wine measure of the United States—equal to five-sixths of an Imperial gallon.)]

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

JAPAN—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Tariff Rates.	Increase under Law of 28th December, 1904.
		Yens.	
1	Arms and ammunition, such as cannons, muskets, pistols, sidearms, projectiles, cartridges, &c.	*ad val.* 25 %	5 % *ad val.*
2	Balances, measuring scales, and tapes ...	„ 10 „	10 „ „
3	Barometers	„ 10 „	5 „ „
7	Crucibles of all kinds	„ 10 „	10 „ „
8	Cutlery, not otherwise provided for... ...	„ 20 „	5 „ „
10	Electric light apparatus or instruments and parts thereof	„ 10 „	5 „ „
11	Fire engines and parts thereof	„ 10 „	5 „ „
12	Implements and tools of farmers and mechanics, and parts thereof	„ 5 „	5 „ „
13	Instruments, musical, and accessories ...	„ 15 „	10 „ „
14*a*	Instruments, philosophical, chemical, surveying, surgical, and all other scientific instruments (except for drawing), not otherwise provided for	„ 10 „	5 „ „
15	Instruments or apparatus, photographic, and parts thereof	„ 15 „	15 „ „
19	Phonographs and parts thereof	„ 25 „	10 „ „
22	Spectacles and parts thereof	„ 10 „	10 „ „
23	Sporting guns and accessories	„ 25 „	10 „ „
25	Telephones, and parts thereof	„ 10 „	5 „ „
27	Thermometers	„ 10 „	10 „ „
31	Beverages, non-alcoholic, such as mineral waters, lemonade, and soda water... ...	„ 10 „	15 % *ad val.*
32	Biscuits—		
	Ship biscuits	kin 0·021	
	Fancy biscuits	„ 0·054	
33	Butter	„ 0·099	
34	Cheese	„ 0·062	
35*a*	Coffee other than in the bean	*ad val.* 20 %	
35*b*	„ in the bean	kin 0·064	
36	Confectionery and sweetmeats—		
	Confectionery	*ad val.* 40 %	
	Preserves with sugar, molasses or syrups	„ 25 „	
37	Eggs, fresh	„ 25 „	10 % *ad val.*
38*a*	Flour, wheaten	100 kins 0·456	15 % *ad val.*
38*b*	Flour and meal of all kinds of grains, and starches, excepting wheat flour	*ad val.* 10 %	
39	Fruits, fresh or dried, and nuts not otherwise provided for	„ 15 „	
40	Ham and bacon	kin 0·065	
41*a*	Mutton, fresh	100 kins 2·383	
41*b*	Meat, fresh, excluding mutton	*ad val.* 10 %	
43	Pepper in the seed or ground pepper ...	„ 15 „	
44	Salt, sea and rock—		
	Crude	100 kins 0·082	
	Refined	„ 1·768	
45	Salt fish...	„ 0·709	
46*a*	„ meat, excluding salted beef and pork	*ad val.* 10 %	
46*b*	Salted beef and pork, in cask	100 kins 2·020	
47	Sekikasai (*gelidium corneum*)	„ 0·590	
48	Tea	kin 0·062	
49	Vegetables, green, dry, salted or in brine ...	*ad val.* 10 %	
50	All other comestibles	„ 15 „	
	Artificial butter	kin 0·057	

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

JAPAN—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Tariff Rates.		Increase under Law of 28th December, 1904.
			Yens.	
51	Boots and shoes of all kinds...	*ad val.*	20 %	20 % *ad val.** 15 % *ad val.*†
52	Braces or suspenders—			
	Of silk, wholly or in part	„	25 „	
	All other	„	20 „	
53	Buckles, hooks and eyes	„	20 „	
54	Comforters, neckerchiefs or mufflers—			
	Of silk, wholly or in part	„	25 „	
	All other	„	20 „	
55	Gloves of all kinds	„	20 „	
57	Scarfs and neckties—			
	Of silk, wholly or in part	„	25 „	
	All other	„	20 „	
58	Shawls—			
	Of wool, embroidered, or of silk wholly or in part	„	25 „	
	All other	„	20 „	
59	Shirts	„	20 „	
60	Socks, hose, or stockings, knit—			
	Of cotton, wool, or of wool and cotton	„	20 „	
	Of silk, wholly or in part	„	25 „	
	All other	„	20 „	
61	Studs, sleeve and cuff buttons or links—			
	Of gold or platinum, set with gems or otherwise	„	30 „	
	All other	„	25 „	
62	Trimmings of all kinds, such as braids, cords, ribbons, laces, fringes, gimps, tassels, knots, stars, metallic threads and braids, &c., not otherwise provided for—			
	Of gold or silver, wholly or in part ...	„	30 „	
	Of silk, wholly or in part	„	25 „	
	All other	„	20 „	
63	Undershirts and drawers, knit—			
	Of cotton	doz.	1·642	
	Of wool	„	3·525	
	Of wool and cotton	„	2·165	
	Of silk, wholly or in part	*ad val.*	25 %	
	All other	„	20 „	
64	Waterproof coats—			
	Of silk, wholly or in part	„	25 „	
	All other	„	20 „	
65	All other clothing and accessories—			
	Of silk, wholly or in part	„	25 „	
	All other	„	20 „	

* Made wholly or in part of silk; made of platinum, gold or silver; or made in part of gold, silver, or precious stones.

† All other kinds.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

JAPAN—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Tariff Rates.	Increase under Law of 28th December, 1904.
		Yens.	
66	Acid, carbolic	kin 0·049	5 % *ad val.*
68	„ tartaric	„ 0·065	5 „
69*a*	Alcohol	litre 0·420	litre 0·060
69*b*	Methylated alcohol—		
	When the quantity of methylic alcohol contained does not exceed 15 % in original volume at the temperature of 15° centigrade	„ 0·420	„ 0·060
	When the above exceeds 15 %	*ad val.* 10 %	
69*c*	Tinctures of all kinds (excluding tincture of opium)	litre 0·420	„ 0·060
70	Alum	100 kins 0·227	5 % *ad val.*
71	Antifebrin	kin 0·050	5 „
72	Antipyrine	„ 0·361	5 „
73	Betel nut	*ad val.* 10 %	5 „
74	Biakujutsu	100 kins 1·051	5 „
76	Bleaching powder (chloride of lime or calx chlorinate)	*ad val.* 10 %	5 „
77	Borax (biborate of soda)	100 kins 1·116	5 „
78	Camphor	kin 0·466	10 „
79	Cassia and cinnamon bark	100 kins 0·902	5 „
80	„ „ oil	kin 0·158	5 „
81	Cataria, leaf of...	100 kins 0·680	5 „
82	Cinchona bark	„ 3·022	5 „
83	Cinchonine, muriate or sulphate of... ...	kin 0·200	5 „
84	Cinnabar	„ 0·098	5 „
85	Cloves	100 kins 1·822	5 „
86	Cocain, hydrochlorate of	kin 18·498	5 „
87	Cod liver oil	*ad val.* 10 %	5 „
88	Collodion, photographic, with iodizer ...	„ 10 „	10 „
89	Colombo	100 kins 0·997	5 „
90	Cow bezoar	*ad val.* 10 %	5 „
91	Cutch and gambier	100 kins 1·131	5 „
92	Gentian	„ 1·077	5 „
93	Ginseng	kin 0·447	5 „
94	Glycerine	„ 0·035	5 „
95	Gum, arabic	100 kins 1·463	5 „
96	„ benzoin	„ 1·110	5 „
97	„ dragon's blood	*ad val.* 10 %	5 „
98	„ myrrh	„ 10 „	5 „
99	„ olibanum	100 kins 1·141	5 „
101	Iodoform	kin 0·432	5 „
102	Ipecac	100 kins 67·033	5 „
103	Jalap	„ 4·279	5 „
104	Lead, acetate of (sugar of lead)	„ 1·282	5 „
105	Liquorice	„ 0·939	5 „
106	Mawo (*Epedora vulgaris*)	„ 0·626	5 „
107	Manganese, black oxide of	*ad val.* 10 %	5 „
108	Morphine, hydrochlorate or sulphate of ...	kin 4·654	5 „
109	Musk	„ 41·175	10 „
110	„ artificial	„ 10·494	10 „
111	Nard or spikenard	100 kins 1·807	5 „
113	Pilocarpine, hydrochlorate of	*ad val.* 10 %	5 „

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

JAPAN—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Tariff Rates.	Increase under Law of 28th December, 1904.
		Yens.	
117	Putchuk	100 kins 1·706	5 % *ad val.*
120	Rhubarb, powdered or otherwise	„ 1·392	5 „
121	Saffron	kin 1·718	5 „
123	Santonine	„ 0·967	5 „
124	Sarsaparilla	100 kins 2·175	5 „
125	Semen cyna	„ 1·781	5 „
126	Shellac	kin 0·043	5 „
128	Soda, bicarbonate of	100 kins 0·367	5 „
130	„ crystals or washing soda	„ 0·423	5 „
131	„ salicylate of	kin 0·115	5 „
132	Sojutzu	100 kins 0·532	5 „
133	Stick-lac	„ 1·140	5 „
134	Vaseline...	„ 1·664	5 „
135	Wogon	„ 0·651	5 „
136	Soda, nitrate of	„ 0·471	5 „
	Acid, boracic	„ 1·658	5 „
	„ acetic	„ 0·024	5 „
	„ tannic	„ 7·425	5 „
	Ammonium carbonate	„ 2·113	5 „
	Creosote carbonate	kin 0·351	5 „
	Chloroform	100 kins 1·922	5 „
	All other drugs, chemicals, and medicines...	*ad val.* 10 %	5 „
139	Blue, prepared from minerals, dry or liquid	100 kins 6·233	
140	Carmine...	*ad val.* 10 %	
142	Cochineal	„ 10 „	
143	Emerald green	kin. 0·035	
144	Galls of all kinds	100 kins 2·892	
145	Gamboge	„ 5·924	
148	Indigo, liquid	„ 7·137	
149	Indigo-extract and indigo carmine	*ad val.* 10 %	
150	Lead, all colours	100 kins 1·327	
153	Mangrove bark...	„ 0·149	
155	Safflower	„ 2·498	
156	Sapan-wood	„ 0·234	5 „
157	Smalt	*ad val.* 10 %	
158	Turmeric	100 kins 0·486	
159	Ultramarine	„ 1·793	
160	Varnish	„ 0·044	
161	„ China	„ 4·173	
162	Verdigris	„ 3·678	
163	Vermilion	kin 0·143	
164	Wansho or gosu	100 kins 6·174	
165	White zinc	„ 1·313	
166	Fustic extract	kin 0·022	
	All other dyes, colours and paints	*ad val.* 10 %	
171	Glass, looking, in frame	„ 25 „	10 „
173	Barley	100 kins 0·106	
174*a*	Beans, soja	„ 0·137	
174*b*	Beans, peas, and all other kinds of pulse, excepting soja beans	*ad val.* 5 %	10 „
175	Indian corn	„ 5 „	
176	Oats	„ 5 „	
177	Sesame	100 kins 0·250	
178	Wheat	„ 0·159	

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

JAPAN—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Article.	Tariff Rates.	Increase under Law of 28th December, 1904.
		Yens.	
179*a*	Cotton seeds	100 kins 0·068	5 % *ad val.*
179*b*	All other grains and seeds not otherwise provided for	*ad val.* 5 %	10 „
181	Feathers and downs of all kinds	„ 25 „	
182	Furs, dressed or otherwise	„ 25 „	
184	Hair, human	100 kins 5·641	
186	Hides or skins, deer, raw, dried, salted or pickled, and undressed	„ 2·121	
187	Hides or skins, Samba (*Cervus elephas*), raw, dried, salted or pickled, and undressed	„ 1·053	
188	Hoofs, animals'...	„ 0·172	
189	Horns, bull, ox, cow and buffalo	„ 0·454	5 „
190	„ deer	„ 0·915	
191	„ rhinoceros	*ad val.* 10 %	
194	Ivory or tusks, narwhal or unicorn	„ 10 „	
195	„ „ teeth of walrus or sea-horse ...	kin. 0·112	
Ex 200	All other bones, horns, hides or skins, raw...	*ad val.* 5 %	
201	„ „ tusks or teeth of animals ...	„ 10 „	
	Brass—		
203*a*	Bar and rod	100 kins 5·195	5 „
203*b*	Plate and sheet	„ 4·748	
204	Pipes and tubes	„ 4·924	5 „
205	Screws	*ad val.* 10 %	5 „
	Copper—		
208*a*	Bar and rod	100 kins 5·206	5 „
208*b*	Plate and sheet	„ 5·155	
209	Nails	„ 6·010	5 „
210	Pipes and tubes	„ 5·948	5 „
211	Wire...	„ 6·306	5 „
212	Copper and nickel coins	*ad val.* 5 %	5 „
	German silver—		
214*a*	Plate, sheet and rod	100 kins 7·583	5 „
214*b*	Wire	„ 6·257	
	Iron and mild steel—		
229*a*	Wire-rope, galvanised	„ 1·280	5 „
229*b*	„ other	„ 1·874	
	Lead—		
233	Sheet	„ 0·982	5 „
234	Pipes and tubes	„ 1·148	5 „
	Steel, other than mild steel—		
244	Wire, paragon (for umbrella ribs) ...	„ 2·315	5 „
245	Wire-rope, galvanised or otherwise ...	„ 2·654	5 „
	Yellow metal and muntz metal—		
250	Plate and sheet	„ 4·042	5 „
251	Bar and rod	„ 4·244	5 „
252	Nails	*ad val.* 10 %	5 „
253	Pipes and tubes	„ 10 „	5 „
258	Nails and screws of metals not otherwise provided for	„ 10 „	5 „
260	Bag-frames	„ 15 „	10 „

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

JAPAN—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Article.	Tariff Rates.		Increase under Law of 28th December, 1904.
			Yens.	
261	Capsules for bottles	*ad val.*	15 %	5 % *ad val.*
263	Door-locks, knobs, bolts, hinges, &c. ...	„	15 „	10 „
264*a*	Foils and powder of gold, silver, or other metals	„	15 „	10 „
	Tin foil	100 kins	12·221	
265	Gold and silver ware, not otherwise provided for	*ad val.*	35 %	10 „
266	Gold and silver plated ware, not otherwise provided for	„	25 „	10 „
267	Grates, fenders, stoves and fittings thereof...	„	20 „	10 „
268	Safes and cash-boxes	„	20 „	10 „
269	Umbrella ribs and fittings thereof	„	15 „	10 „
271	All other manufactures of metal or metals, not otherwise provided for (except building materials, materials for constructing bridges, telegraph poles, and other similar materials)	„	20 „	10 „
273	Gazolene	„	10 „	5 „
274	Oil, bean	100 kins	0·914	5 „
275*a*	Oil, castor, in tins, casks or jars	„	1·193	5 „
275*b*	„ „ excepting in tins, casks, or jars..	*ad val.*	10 %	5 „
277	„ ground-nut or pea-nut	100 kins	1·293	5 „
278	„ kerosene or petroleum—			
	In tin	gallon	0·032	30 „
	In bulk	„	0·020	
280*a*	„ olive, in tins or casks	100 kins	3·043	5 „
280*b*	„ „ excepting in tins or casks ...	*ad val.*	10 %	5 „
281	„ palm	„	10 „	5 „
284	Wax, Chinese, white or insect	„	10 „	5 „
286	All other oils and wax	„	10 „	5 „
287	Albums, photographic and postage stamp ...	„	25 „	10 „
288	Books, blank and printed blank, and printed blank forms	„	15 „	10 „
289	Ink, copying and writing	„	15 „	5 „
290	Paper, Chinese, of all kinds	„	15 „	5 „
294	Pencils—			
	In gold or platinum cases	„	30 „	10 „
	All other	„	15 „	5 „
295	Pen nibs—			
	Gold	„	30 „	10 „
	All other	„	15 „	5 „
296	Sealing wax	„	15 „	5 „
297	Straw-board	„	15 „	5 „
298	All other stationery	„	15 „	10 „

(*To be continued*).

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SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—NEW SOUTH WALES.

Facilities for Shipping Wool.

According to a report furnished to the Acting Agent-General for New South Wales by the Sydney Harbour Trust Commissioners, the number of bales of wool received at the Ports of Sydney and Newcastle for the present season up to the 28th November (412,623 bales) show an increase of 128,673 bales, as compared with last season, and the number exported since 1st July (245,538 bales), shows an increase of 91,706 bales.

Arrangements for receiving and "dumping" this product are stated to be of the completest and most satisfactory character, the wool being shipped into steamers at the rate of about 200 bales per hour, and into sailing vessels at about half that rate. As some of the stevedoring and "wool-dumping" companies are now increasing their plant, it is expected that they will shortly be able to "dump" wool at the rate of 2,500 bales per day of eight hours.

CAPE COLONY.

Reduced Railway Rates on Goods "In Transit" to Western Transvaal.

An announcement appears in the "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" of 24th February to the effect that on and from the 20th February a rebate will be made of a portion of the railway carriage on certain classes of goods and on produce consigned to Fourteen Streams, Pokwani, Taungs, Vryburg, Maribogo and Mafeking "in transit" to the Western Transvaal. Particulars of the rebate are published in a supplement to the January issue of the Cape Government Railway's Tariff Book.

NATAL.

Increased Depth of Water at Durban.

In a communication received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from their Correspondent at Port Natal (Mr. A. D. C. Agnew) he states that the great increase in depth of water at the entrance to the port—the greatest draught across the bar in January having been 27 ft. (3 ft. 2 in. more than in January, 1904)—has removed all the difficulties which in the past prevented easy access to the wharves at certain seasons. Steamers of the largest size can now enter at any time without delay or risk.

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Shipping and Transport.

BRITISH HONDURAS—UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

S.S. Service from New York to Belize, Livingston Puerto Barrios, and Puerto Cortez.

The "Official Gazette" of British Honduras of the 14th January states that the Hamburg American Line are organising a monthly S.S. service between New York and Belize, Livingston and Puerto Barrios (Guatemala) and Puerto Cortez (Republic of Honduras). If successful, this service, which is the first to link these various ports, will be made a fortnightly one.

FRANCE: ALGERIA.

Railway Statistics for 1904.

According to a report by the French Ministry of Public Works, published in the "Journal Officiel" of 5th March, the length of railways (excluding light railways) open to traffic in **France** on the 31st December, 1903, was 39,331 kilometres (24,425 miles). The length of line opened during the year 1904 was 256 kiloms. (159 miles), making a total length of 39,587 kiloms. (24,584 miles) open to traffic on the 31st December last.

With regard to **Algeria**, the length of line open to traffic at the end of 1904 was 3,079 kiloms (1,912 miles). This total does not include the lines conceded to the Bône-Guelma Company on Tunisian territory (689 kiloms.), but includes 28 kiloms. of line utilised only for industrial purposes.

SPAIN—CANARY ISLANDS.

New Port in the Canary Isles.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 15th March publishes a Decree habilitating Sardina de Galdar, Grand Canary, as a port open to foreign trade for the loading and unloading of all classes of goods, with the exception of alcohol and liquors, as well as for the landing and embarkation of passengers.

URUGUAY.

Port Works at Monte Video.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Minister at Monte Video (Mr. W. Baring) reporting that a Decree has been issued, introducing certain modifications into the scheme for the construction of port works at that city, in which comparatively little progress has been made since the inauguration in 1901.

The Decree provides for the introduction of a new system of constructing the wharves which will enable them to be proceeded with at once, without waiting for the completion of the breakwaters; it is hoped that these wharves will be completed within three years dating from January last.

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MINERALS, METALS, AND MACHINERY.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

Mica in Central Australia.

The "Queensland Government Mining Journal" of 14th January states that samples of mica obtained from the vicinity of Mount Johnson, 120 miles east and north of Alice Springs, Central Australia, have been submitted to a London firm of mica dealers who stated that the mica was of excellent quality. "The plates discoloured by red and black bands," the firm add, "are admirably suited to electrical purposes, and we compare the value to Madras mica (branded R.I.R. in diamond) mark of spotted mica, imported by us, and sold by auction. We enclose a catalogue, with prices marked, of a recent sale, to give an indication of values, but it would be safer to make some allowance off these prices for a new mark. The plates free from these spots and bands are practically of good quality. Clear will compare with our first quality clear. As regards cutting, the samples cannot be improved upon. A case should contain about 100 lbs., tightly pressed, and each case must contain mica cut to approximately the same size plates. The market for mica has been gradually rising for the last two years, and prices have now reached a very high level, but we think these will be maintained for all except the smallest sizes, which since the period of the auction have declined about 15 per cent. This refers to sizes under 2½ inches." The catalogue referred to in the letter contains the extended details of about 600 cases of Madras and other mica offered for sale by auction. The prices obtained vary from 2½*d.* per lb. to over 7*s.* per lb. The lower price, which is stated to have since declined 15 per cent., is for mica cut in plates only 2 inches square, while the higher rates are obtained for material cut in plates up to 8, 10, or more inches square.

GERMANY.

Coal Trade in 1904.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul-General at Hamburg (Sir Wm. Ward), forwarding the following particulars of the coal trade of Germany in 1904, which supplement those published on p. 277 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 9th February:—

As regards the chief districts of coal production in Germany, the district of Dortmund shows the largest production, viz., last year, 67,459,557 tons, or more than 50 per cent. of the aggregate coal output, the coke production of this district having been 10,776,629 tons, or nearly five-sixths of the entire coke production of Germany. The other prominent coal-mining district is that of Breslau, in which 30,595,649 tons, or about 25 per cent. of the total coal output of 1904, were produced, the coke production in this

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

district having only been slight. Lignite is chiefly produced in the district of Halle o/Saale, the output being about two-thirds of the aggregate German production. The district of Halle is also the most important one in so far as regards the manufacture of patent fuel.

As regards the import and export trade of Germany in coal, coke, and lignite, the figures for each of the last two years are as follows:—

—	Imports.		Exports.	
	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.
	Metric Tons.	Metric Tons.	Metric Tons.	Metric Tons.
Coal	6,766,513	7,299,042	17,389,934	17,996,727
Coke...	432,819	550,302	2,523,351	2,716,855
Lignite	7,962,123	7,669,099	22,499	22,135

ITALY.

Construction of New Steamers.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M Consul at Palermo (Mr. S. J. A. Churchill). reporting that the "Cantiere Navale" of Palermo has secured orders for the construction of two steamers for the Levant trade (see p. 505 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 15th December).

These vessels, with steel hulls will have a displacement of 6,440 tons. Their speed should be from 11 to 12 knots with 2,000 h.-p. Cost about 52,000*l.* each, complete.

Besides these, the yard has also secured an order from the "Veloce" line for the construction of a transatlantic liner, displacing about 10,000 tons, twin-screw, to steam 17 knots, and carry 130 state-room passengers and 1,500 emigrants.

FRANCE.

Coal Production in 1904.

The following table, showing the production of coal in France during the year 1904, as compared with the preceding year, is compiled from statistics published in the French "Journal Officiel" of the 19th March:—

—	1903.	1904.
	Metric tons.	Metric tons.
Pit coal and anthracite	34,217,661	33,838,130
Lignite	688,757	664,159
Total	34,906,418	34,502,289

NOTE.—The figures for 1904 are only provisional, those for 1903 are definite.

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

FRANCE—*continued.*

Iron and Steel Production in 1904.

The same issue of the "Journal" publishes statistics relating to the production of iron and steel in France in 1904, with comparative figures for the preceding year, on which the following table is based:—

	1903.	1904.
	Metric tons.	Metric tons.
Cast iron—		
Forge pig	2,287,485	2,446,072
Foundry pig	553,032	553,715
Total	2,840,517	2,999,787
Iron—		
Wrought iron (various)	547,818	520,700
Sheets	42,092	33,932
Total	589,910	554,632
Steel—		
Rails	229,071	246,339
Wrought steel (various)	784,094	936,993
Sheets	292,544	299,376
Total	1,305,709	1,482,708
Bessemer and Siemens-Martin ingots	1,839,628	2,080,354

NOTE.—The figures for 1903 given above are definite, those for 1904 are subject to correction.

OTTOMAN EMPIRE.

Mineral Resources of Koniah.

In a recent report the Belgian Vice-Consul at Koniah (M. W. Serruys), remarks that the extent of the mineral resources of the vilayet of Koniah is as yet only imperfectly known. Mines of argentiferous and auriferous lead exist in Nigde, and deposits of chromium and manganese have been worked in Adalia and Hamid-Abad. Copper, arsenic, antimony and sulphur are also found. A coal mine is being worked at Kotchissar: the production in 1900 amounted to 2,000 tons. There are some fine marble quarries near Nigde; but these cannot be worked owing to the lack of means of transport. An argentiferous and auriferous lead mine at Bulgardagh is worked by the Government, 600 miners being employed; but the paucity of fuel renders working both difficult and costly.

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

CHILE.

Commission to report on Coal Industry of the country.

The "Diario Oficial" of Chile of 16th January publishes a Decree commissioning Don Guillermo Yunge to draw up a report on the coal industry of that country. The report is to include statistics of production since the coal mines of Chile were first worked, a study of the technical and economic conditions of the industry, and a statement of the measures which it would appear most suitable to adopt with a view to its development.

Commission to examine and report on the Manufacture of Railway Plant in the United States of America.

The "Diario Oficial" of Chile of 20th January states that the Chilean Government have commissioned Mr. J. Chirgwin to make an exhaustive study of the methods of manufacturing railway plant in the United States of America with a view to drawing up a report on the subject.

JAPAN.

Copper Mine at Besshi.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Minister at Tokio (Sir C. MacDonald), forwarding a report on the Besshi copper mine, which has been drawn up by Mr. Student Interpreter Davidson.

This mine is situated in the Ehimé prefecture, in the Province of Iyo to the north-west of the island of Shikoku, one of the four main islands of which Japan is composed. The area of the mine and contingent metallurgical works is estimated at 5,415 acres; it is the second largest copper mine in Japan, employing 5,055 officials and hands, all Japanese. In addition to smelting and refining works, there are extensive workshops, fitted with all the appliances necessary for constructing machinery, boilers, and heavy castings, as well as for making repairs to the machinery now in use. The appliances include a hydraulic rivetter, planing machine, bolt making machine, &c. Castings weighing as much as five tons have been turned out from these works, where also a great part of the machinery and plant used at the mine is constructed. A large electrical plant is being erected which, when completed, will supply motive power for all the trolley cars, trams and machinery in use at the mine. There are 3 steamers and 51 sailing vessels belonging to the works: 20 new sailing vessels are to be acquired during 1905. The amount of refined copper produced by the works during the last four years was: 1901, 4,500 tons, 1,902, 4,800 tons, 1,903, 5,500 tons, 1,904, 5,000 tons.

The text of the report, which deals in great detail with methods of working, means of transport, rates of wages &c., together with a map and a sample of the copper produced, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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YARNS AND TEXTILES.

ITALY—FRANCE—BELGIUM.

Artificial Silk.

The United States Consul-General at Frankfort, in a recent report states that a large factory for making artificial silk is to be established at Florence.

The Consul-General adds that a German manufacturer in Herford has sold the right of using his process for making artificial silk in France and Belgium to a Brussels syndicate for 600,000 francs.

AGRICULTURE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Corn Prices.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 18th March, 1905, were as follow:—

Wheat	30*s.* 10*d.*
Barley	24*s.* 11*d.*
Oats	16*s.* 10*d.*

For further particulars see p. 571.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

A statement is published on p. 572, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 18th March, 1905, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1904.

CEYLON.

Cotton Cultivation.

In its issue for January, the "Tropical Agriculturist" (Colombo) remarks that it has been proved beyond doubt that cotton can be grown to perfection in Ceylon; provided the right varieties be grown it will be a profitable product, and something more than a mere village industry as hitherto. The Government experiments have proved that Indian cottons cannot be profitably grown; the yield of lint is too small, being only 60 lbs per acre, while American Uplands and Sea Island varieties gave 200 to 300 lbs., and Egyptian 300 to 400 lbs. per acre.

Dr. Fernando has carried out some extensive trial plots, and has shown that cotton can be profitably grown between the rows of trees in cocoanut plantations during their early years before the palms are in bearing. The cotton was planted 4 ft. apart and 18 in. in the rows, and opening and planting the estate cost him Rs. 10 per acre, the land being already under cocoanuts. Picking cost 1 cent per lb. seed cotton; a coolie is said to have picked 30 lbs. in a day. Sea Island and Egyptian cotton costs double for picking;

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Agriculture.

CEYLON—*continued.*

it is estimated that more than 200 lbs. American Uplands cotton per acre can be produced, and the cost of cultivation and harvesting would be about Rs. 25 per acre. The cotton grown in the Kurunegala district has been thoroughly tested and is well reported of.

There seem, adds the "Tropical Agriculturist," good prospects therefore of the cotton growing industry going ahead in Ceylon.

Offer of Land for Cocoanut Cultivation.

The "Ceylon Government Gazette" of 24th February contains an announcement to the effect that the Government are prepared to offer three blocks of land in the North-Central Province, in the neighbourhood of the railway line near Talawa station, each of 1,000 acres in extent, for cocoanut cultivation on terms which are set forth in the "Gazette." Applications should be addressed to the Colonial Secretary, Colombo, on or before the 1st May, 1905.

The "Gazette" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

RUSSIA.

Butter Trade: Increased Export to Germany.

The British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. H. Cooke) sends a translation from the "Viestnik Finansoff" (St. Petersburg) commenting on the rapidly increasing export of late years of Russian and other butter to Germany, and pointing out that whereas, hitherto, Great Britain imported the whole surplus production of Continental butter, Germany is now coming forward as a large consumer. The import into Great Britain from Europe generally, and from Russia and Denmark in particular, shows some diminution, owing in part to increased British imports from the Colonies.

This change in the direction of the butter export trade is due, on the one hand, to the increased demand in Germany, and, on the other, to the competition in British markets of Australian as against Danish butter. Higher prices, too, in the chief German markets have exerted their influence, the average level of the higher quotations on German markets in 1904 being considerably above those of the two preceding years, whereas at Copenhagen they have been considerably lower.

Russia is now taking a prominent part in this export to Germany. Three years ago, with only 40,523 metric cwts., Russia stood third as a butter exporter to Germany, while in 1904, with 118,242 she occupied the first place. During the same period the

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Agriculture.

export of Russian butter correspondingly decreased to Great Britain (17 per cent.), and to Denmark (9 per cent.).

The increase in the Russian export to Germany is partly due, too, to the now direct despatch of this product from Russia, and not as formerly *viâ* Denmark.

Acting in conformity with this movement, the Kourgan (Siberian) Farmers' Association have now transferred their London agent to Riga, whence he can direct butter either to Great Britain, Denmark, or Germany.

The following table shows the quantity of butter exported from Russia to the countries named:—

To	1902.	1903.	1904.
	Metric cwt.	Metric cwt.	Metric cwt.
Germany	40,523	76,536	118,242
Great Britain	248,966	246,038	205,596
Denmark	141,486	127,516	—

GERMANY.

Sugar Production.

According to statistics published in the "Reichsanzeiger," the quantity of raw sugar produced in Germany during the period from 1st September, 1904, to 28th February last, being the first six months of the 1904-5 sugar campaign, was 1,333,279 metric tons, as compared with 1,625,299 metric tons during the corresponding months of 1903-4. The quantity of refined sugar produced increased from 753,477 metric tons during the six months September, 1903, to February, 1904, to 786,043 metric tons during the six months September, 1904, to February, 1905.

The total quantity of beets used during the first half of the present campaign was 10,080,538 metric tons, as compared with 12,677,099 metric tons during the corresponding months of 1903-4.

The total output of sugar (raw and refined) during the period September, 1904, to February, 1905, expressed in terms of raw sugar, was 1,510,461 metric tons, as compared with 1,832,523 metric tons in the corresponding months of 1903-4.

FRANCE—SENEGAL.

Failure of Groundnut Crop and Probable Effect on Trade.

In a recent despatch to the Foreign Office, H.M. Consul at Dakar (Capt. C. F. Cromie) reports that this year's groundnut season has been a failure. The crop promised very well, but at the end of November and the beginning of December last there was a week's heavy rain, which is most unusual at that season.

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Agriculture.

Part of the nuts had been gathered, and were lying in heaps, which the rain penetrated to a depth of from two to three feet, spoiling all the nuts with which it come in contact. Where these heaps were in the possession of Europeans, the outer layer of bad nuts was removed, leaving a core of sound ones; but the natives mixed them in the hope of increasing their profits, with the result that nearly all were rejected, and prices dropped to a very low point.

The rest of the crop was still in the ground when the rain came, and most of the nuts rotted in the ground. To complete the disaster, fairly heavy rain fell from the 25th to the 27th February, so that the nuts were again wetted.

The proportion of the crop spoilt is variously estimated at from 25 to 40 per cent. In Captain Cromie's opinion, 20 to 25 per cent. represents the losses where the spoilt nuts were separated from the good ones, and 40 or even more per cent. the losses in the hands of natives and in the ground.

The failure of the groundnuts will have a very bad effect on this year's trade, as the natives will not be in a position to buy imported goods, and the business houses will have their stocks left on their hands, and therefore will try to keep such goods as do not deteriorate during the wet season, for the purpose of getting rid of them during next produce season.

Tobacco and cotton goods, both largely imported from the United Kingdom, will be among the principal articles affected, and the imports of them for 1905 will probably be much below the average.

ITALY.

Cotton Cultivation.

The following particulars of a project to develop cotton cultivation in Italy, taken from the "Bollettino delle Finanze" (Rome) of 12th March, supplement those published on p. 372 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 25th August, 1904.

At the present time between 3,000 and 4,000 hectares of land in the territories of Vittoria, Biscari and Terranova Sicula are devoted to cotton cultivation; lesser areas in the province of Salerno are also sown with cotton, the produce being utilised in small local factories. These figures show a considerable diminution, as compared with the 80,000 hectares sown with cotton in the period between the American Civil War and the year 1872. The reasons which led to the abandonment of cotton cultivation on a large scale in Italy no longer exist; the price of cotton has risen; enhanced transport facilities and consequent increased importation have brought about a considerable reduction in the price of agricultural products which formerly were furnished almost entirely from home sources; finally, depression in the citrus fruit, oil and wine industries have diminished the cost of labour.

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Agriculture.

ITALY—*continued.*

A company is now about to be formed to foster cotton growing on large areas of land in Apulia, Calabria, Sardinia and Sicily; where the climate, soil and conditions of labour are said to be eminently adapted to this purpose. Agriculture in the extreme south of Italy has hitherto suffered, remarks the "Bollettino," from lack of capital and from ignorance of the most rudimentary principles of scientific agriculture. Strong efforts will be made by the new company to lessen these evils. An experimental field is to be established where the selection of the most suitable seeds for distribution may be determined; cotton cultivators will be guaranteed a minimum price for their crops; subsidies will be made for the purchase of agricultural machinery and chemical fertilisers; and specially trained agriculturists will be appointed to afford advice and practical help to cultivators. It is stated that cotton forms an excellent rotation crop. Experiments carried out by Professor D'Addiego on 4 hectares in four successive years show an increase of from 20 to 22 per cent. in the production of wheat from land previously sown with cotton.

The "Bollettino" adds that the scheme referred to is warmly approved by the Italian Government, the Ministers of Finance and of Agriculture having mentioned it most favourably at a recent sitting of the Chamber of Deputies. The promoters have, moreover, received promises of support from large numbers of manufacturers, and of assistance and advice from various distinguished agriculturists.

Hectare = 2·47 acres.

Cultivation of Truffles.

In his recent report to the Foreign Office H.M. Consul-General at Naples (Mr. E. Neville Rolfe, M.V.O.) states that two eminent Italian botanists, Professor Mattei, who occupies the Chair of Botany at the Naples University, and Dr. Serra, of Castellammare, who also holds an important position in the botanical world, have patented a mycelium which is to make the growing of truffles easy and highly profitable. They expect to have an unlimited quantity of mycelium ready for use in April next, and they calculate that once the ground is properly treated generation will be so spontaneous that further use of what may be called the "protoplasm" will be unnecessary for a great number of years; for the cultivated tuber will propagate itself in the same way as the wild one has done for unnumbered generations. They further assert that the crop sown in April will be ready to be gathered from October onwards. Each oak tree is reckoned to produce among its roots from 5 to 10 kilos. per year, which means that at 10 fr. per kilo. each tree will produce from 2*l*. to 4*l*. annually.

If the cultivation of truffles can be carried out, as asserted, in

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Agriculture.

ITALY—*continued.*

an easy way, and if they become an important asset in the planting of woodlands, the problem of reafforestation will be well nigh solved in countries where the soil is suitable for them. The greater part of their numerous varieties spring from the roots of forest trees, and assuming the ground to be properly inoculated with the mycelium, the land planted and fenced would become immediately profitable.

The chief hope of the botanists referred to, of material profit, however, lies, Mr. Rolfe states, in the "*Terfezia Leonis*"* and its adoption in British Colonies, in whose important botanical gardens there can be no doubt that a fair trial will be extended to the mycelium. This kind of truffle originates from the roots of "*Helianthemum guttalum*," a herbaceous annual which could be sown from year to year where it would best flourish. It is the easiest of all the varieties to grow and is practically independent of water. In Tripoli the *terfezia* practically takes the place occupied by the potato in more northern countries. It grows there to the size of an orange, and when taken from the ground is cut up and dried and carried as food for the caravans which cross the desert. It can be cooked when required, either in water or in camel's milk, and will keep good for an indefinite period. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,323.)

CONGO FREE STATE.

Cotton Cultivation.

The following particulars of cotton cultivation in the Congo Free State are taken from the "Bourse" (Antwerp):—

For some time past the Government of the Free State have adopted measures to develop cotton cultivation: seeds and educative pamphlets have been distributed, and gins and presses have been despatched to the cotton-growing centres. Moreover, steps have been taken to engage the services of men with practical experience in the growing, ginning, and packing of cotton.

The results of the harvest in 1904 proved very satisfactory on the small trial plantations established on the Lower Congo. Cotton grown from Egyptian seed was valued at 2·30 fr. per kilog.: other varieties, grown from American seed, were valued at from 1·30 fr. to 1·70 fr. per kilog. A sample of indigenous cotton grown at Mayumbe, gathered in haphazard fashion by natives, was valued at 1·30 fr. per kilog.

* The name of the agents in the United Kingdom for this plant may be obtained on application at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

State of the Labour Market in February, 1905.

A report published in the "Board of Trade Labour Gazette"* of 16th March, based on 4,611 returns, viz.: 3,224 from Employers, or their Associations, 1,296 from Trade Unions, and 91 from other sources, states that employment in February was better on the whole than in the previous month. The metal, engineering, and shipbuilding groups continue to show some improvement. The cotton industry was very busy.

As compared with a year ago there was improvement in the mining, metal, and textile trades, but the building, furnishing, boot and shoe, and printing trades were still below the level of a year ago.

In the 272 Trade Unions, with an aggregate membership of 578,708, making returns, 35,778 (or 6·2 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of February, 1905, as compared with 6·8 per cent. at the end of January, and 6·1 at the end of February, 1904.

Cotton Statistics.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 16th March, 1905, was 57,614 (including 39 bales British West African and 302 bales British West Indian), and the number imported during the 11 weeks ended the 16th March was 1,032,284 (including 635 bales British West African and 546 bales British West Indian). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 16th March, 1905, 11,952 bales, and for the 11 weeks, 125,222 (including 16 bales British West African).

For further details see p. 571.

BRITISH INDIA—THIBET.

Trade of Bengal with Thibet.

The report on the trade of Bengal with Nepal, Thibet, Sikkim and Bhutan for the year ended 31st March, 1904, states that the trade of Bengal with Thibet, which is registered at Yatung, was practically at a standstill during the last six months of the year, for the despatch of the British Mission to Thibet, and the military operations resulting from the armed opposition to its progress, closed the trade route, and an edict was issued by the Thibetan Government on the 15th October interdicting all trade with British India. The chief imports from Thibet are raw wool, which formed 83 per cent. of the total imports in 1903–04, musk, yaks' tails, lambskins, and, in ordinary years, ponies and mules. The principal exports are goods made of cotton (chiefly Indian piece-goods), silk and wool, metals, precious stones, glass and coral ornaments, tobacco and many miscellaneous articles. The obstacles to the

* For list of principal contents of the "Board of Trade Labour Gazette," see p. 573.

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Miscellaneous.

expansion of the trade of Thibet have hitherto been the difficulties and expenses of transport, the trading monopoly enjoyed by the Lamas, which accounts for the exclusion of Indian tea, and their hostility to everything promoting the growth of commercial relations with India. An opening is now, however, afforded to trade by the provisions of the recent treaty with Thibet, for despite the apparent poverty of the country, its resources can probably be greatly developed by commercial exploitation.

CANADA.

Establishment of Cement Industry.

The "Monetary Times" (Toronto) states that arrangements have been completed, for the building at Sydney, Cape Breton, of a large plant for making cement from slag, one of the by-products of the Dominion Iron and Steel Company. The plant is to cost about 250,000 dollars, and will be the only one of the kind in Canada. The site has been selected close to the steel works. Its capacity will probably be 500 barrels a day, and a cooperage with a capacity of 50,000 barrels a year is also proposed to be built. The plant, which is to be of steel, will probably be finished in July. The city council of Sydney have granted the company a bonus of 10,000 dols., exemption from taxes for 20 years, and low water rates, providing the company manufacture not less than 25,000 barrels of cement a year.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Congress of Chambers of Commerce of South Africa.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from their Correspondent at Cape Town (Mr. E. J. Cattell) extracts from the "Cape Times," containing a full report of the proceedings of the tenth annual Congress of Chambers of Commerce of South Africa held at Cape Town on the 24th, 25th and 27th February last. This report may be consulted at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

ITALY.

Appointment of Commission to report on the Sumach Trade.

The "Bollettino Ufficiale" of the Italian Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce notifies the appointment by the Italian Government of a Commission to report on the best methods of modifying existing legislation with a view to developing the sumach trade.

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Miscellaneous.

ITALY—SICILY.

Establishment of a Citric Acid Factory.

H.M. Consul at Palermo (Mr. S. J. A. Churchill), in a recent despatch, reports that arrangements are in progress for the establishment at Palermo of a citric acid factory under a system discovered by an Italian chemist.

ABYSSINIA.

Proposed Establishment of State Bank.

The "Bollettino delle Finanze" (Rome) of 16th March states that the Emperor of Abyssinia has granted the National Bank of Egypt permission to establish a State Bank in Abyssinia. It is added that a group of French and Italian financiers will support the National Bank of Egypt in this project.

Trade of the Boran Country.

The following particulars of trade in the Boran country are taken from an appendix to the report by Mr. A. E. Butter on the survey of the proposed frontier between British East Africa and Abyssinia. [Cd. 2,312]:—

The products of the country on both sides of the frontier recommended are camels, cattle, sheep, and goats. The aloe is ubiquitous, and excellent camel mats and ropes are made from its fibre, which is said to be stronger than hemp.

The only real requirement of the natives is cotton cloth. American cotton drill is the only cloth imported from the coast. It is brought up by Benadir and Somali traders from Lugh and Bardera, and traded for cattle and ivory. Trade in the latter is very small, as the Abyssinians prevent it as far as possible, and they have themselves exterminated elephants in many districts. The general impression is that elephant hunting, except by special parties sent out by the Emperor of Abyssinia, is not allowed, but in the Boran country the idea is that it is permitted on condition that one tusk of every elephant killed is sent to the Emperor.

There is very little, if any, trade with Kismayu.

There are always some Somali traders in the Boran country, and they all complain of the restrictions imposed on them by the Abyssinians. Trade cannot flourish where Abyssinian influence extends.

The only articles which find their way into the Boran country from Abyssinia are cloth and tobacco. The former is manufactured in Konso, a province near L. Abaya. It is softer, and appears thicker than the American cloth, but it is not so durable, and is only worn by those who cannot afford the "Americana."

This cloth is gladly accepted anywhere in payment for camels

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Miscellaneous.

bullocks, &c. In some places the Maria Theresa dollar was taken by those who knew they could obtain cloth from traders with these coins.

The only coins that enter the country are brought by travellers, and as they usually come supplied with cloth for barter, most of the natives do not understand money as a medium for exchange.

CHILE.

Customs Receipts for 1904.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from the Acting British Consul-General at Valparaiso (Mr. A. L. Rowley) a translation of the report of the Superintendent of Customs at that port on the Customs revenue of Chile for the year 1904, from which the following particulars are taken :—

The total Customs revenue in 1904 amounted to 81,189,137 dols., as compared with 78,416,418 dols. in 1903. Export duties contributed to the revenue in 1904 with 50,852,701 dols., as compared with 49,549,014 dols. in 1903; and import duties contributed in 1904 with 30,336,436 dols., as compared with 28,867,404 dols. in 1903.

The export duties collected on nitrate correspond to 32,400,000 Spanish quintals, which quantity is 2,600,000 quintals under the amount agreed upon by producers. Strikes and a scarcity of hands have prevented producers turning out their full quotas. In 1903 the exportation will not be under 35,000,000 quintals, which quantity will yield in duties on nitrate and iodine the sum of 55,000,000 dols., or 4,000,000 dols. more than in 1904.

The following table shows the amount of the import and export duties collected in each of the last five years :—

Year.	Import Duties.	Export Duties.
	Dollars.	Dollars.
1900	28,325,871	50,171,003
1901	26,988,720	44,126,259
1902	25,328,897	45,240,707
1903	28,867,404	49,549,014
1904	30,336,436	50,852,701

Spanish quintal = 101·4 lbs. av.

BRAZIL.

Paper Money in Circulation on 31st January.

According to a despatch which has been received at the Foreign Office from the Acting British Consul-General at Rio de Janeiro (Mr. C. B. Rhind), the total value of the Brazilian paper money in circulation on the 31st January amounted to 673,500,505 milreis, showing that, since 31st August, 1898, there has been withdrawn paper to the amount of 114,864,109 milreis.

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STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the Week and 11 Weeks ended 16th March, 1905.

—	Week ended 16th Mar., 1905.	11 Weeks ended 16th Mar., 1905.	Week ended 16th Mar., 1905.	11 Weeks ended 16th Mar., 1905.
	Imports. (Bales.)		Exports. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American	45,681	855,199	10,398	91,549
Brazilian	—	11,305	—	328
East Indian	—	13,937	12	4,369
Egyptian	10,734	132,913	1,453	28,312
Miscellaneous	1,199*	18,930†	89	664‡
Total	57,614	1,032,284	11,952	125,222

* Including 39 bales British West African and 302 bales British West Indian.
† Including 635 bales British West African and 546 bales British West Indian.
‡ Including 16 bales British West African.

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 18th March, 1905, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

—	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 18th March, 1905	30	10	24	11	16	10
Corresponding week in—						
1898	35	4	28	6	17	8
1899	25	4	26	8	17	0
1900	25	11	25	0	17	1
1901	25	8	24	11	17	9
1902	27	1	26	4	20	6
1903	25	1	22	9	16	10
1904	28	6	22	9	16	7

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

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Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 18th March, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

—		Week ended 18th Mar., 1905.	*Corresponding Week in 1904.*
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number.	11,869	*12,051*
Sheep and lambs	"	5,988	*14,158*
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	325	*212*
Fresh Meat :—			
Beef	Cwts.	115,279	*87,645*
Mutton	"	80,972	*69,278*
Pork	"	13,914	*15,009*
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Cwts.	98,223	*96,543*
Beef	"	2,971	*5,307*
Hams	"	18,143	*16,177*
Pork	"	4,849	*3,771*
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ...	"	15,801	*16,256*
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting...	"	8,109	*14,326*
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwts.	59,067	*94,508*
Margarine	"	20,194	*20,231*
Cheese	"	31,804	*18,476*
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	—
" cream	"	70	*86*
" condensed	"	18,916	*16,831*
" preserved, other kinds...	"	56	*148*
Eggs	Grt. Hundr.	271,125	*433,441*
Poultry	Value £	16,749	*30,547*
Game	"	450	*4,731*
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	Cwts.	7,002	*3,098*
Lard	"	47,645	*22,293*
Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—			
Wheat	Cwts.	2,174,200	*1,823,100*
Wheat meal and flour	"	212,400	*282,900*
Barley	"	345,000	*533,900*
Oats	"	188,800	*260,700*
Peas	"	58,720	*43,650*
Beans	"	51,290	*30,410*
Maize or Indian corn	"	811,800	*997,700*
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Cwts.	57,790	*52,701*
Apricots and peaches	"	18	*16*
Bananas	Bunches.	46,187	*75,521*
Cherries	Cwts.	—	—
Currants...	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	—	—
Grapes	"	268	*195*
Lemons	"	13,458	*24,871*
Oranges	"	239,641	*179,125*
Pears	"	206	*252*
Plums	"	94	*103*
Strawberries	"	—	—
Unenumerated	"	2,808	*556*
Hay...	Tons.	1,525	*2,233*
Straw	"	2,885	*3,145*
Moss Litter*	"	1,616	—
Hops	Cwts.	896	*765*
Locust Beans	"	17,807	*19,675*
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels.	60,169	*156,604*
Potatoes	Cwts.	14,474	*271,007*
Tomatoes	"	20,083	*24,452*
Unenumerated	Value £	10,991	*12,822*
Vegetables, dried	Cwts.	516	*433*
Preserved by canning...	"	2,820	*5,246*

* Not shown in 1904.

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GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of February, 1905, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance of 1*s.* 1*d.* per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1903, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s.* 1*d.* for the first, and 5*s.* for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1899–1903, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade on the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the March issue:—State of the Labour Market in February; Fatal Industrial Accidents in 1904; Spindles and Looms in Woollen and Worsted Factories; Relief of the Unemployed.

FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in a Consular Report of the Annual Series issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

ANNUAL.

No. 631. Coal Industry of the United States, 1903.

Table showing the approximate areas of the coalfields in the various States, with total output from each for 1898-1903.

Increase of production of bituminous coal by the use of undercutting machinery.

Details of production of coal by States in 1903, and production per man in each State in 1902-03.

Average coal prices in the United States for 24 years.

Statistics of labour strikes in 1902-03, showing the number of men on strike and total of days lost.

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Government Publications.

COLONIAL OFFICE REPORT.

A report from the following British Colony has been issued by the Colonial Office since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal," viz.:—

No. 445. Leeward Islands.

OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

Africa, No. 2 (1905). *Report on the Possibilities of Cotton Growing in the East Africa Protectorate for* 1904. [*Cd.* 2,406.] *Price* 2½*d.*

This report, which is in continuation of No. 606, Miscellaneous Series, contains a history of cotton growing in East Africa, and details of the methods of native, Indian and European cultivators. Particulars of the climatic conditions, with tables of rainfall and monthly temperature, are given, together with remarks on the most suitable seeds for the country, statistics of cost of cultivation and capital required, and varied information as to soils, water supply, diseases to which the cotton plant is liable, &c. An examination, by districts, of the results obtained in cotton growing throughout the Protectorate is also included.

Differential Duties. Return. [*Cd.* 2,394]. *Price* 1*s.* 6*d.*

This return contains statements of differential rates of import duty in the United Kingdom imposed, repealed, or modified by various Acts of Parliament in the years 1823, 1824, 1825, 1826, 1842, 1843, 1844, 1845, 1846, 1853, and 1860, with particulars of the imports of each article subject to such duties, and of the receipts from the duties.

Final Report of the Royal Commission on Coal Supplies. Part XIII. [*Cd.* 2,365]. *Price* 1*s.* 7*d.*

This publication contains the replies from 253 of H.M. Consular Officers in answer to a series of questions upon the maintenance of the British coal trade in foreign countries.

The Journal of the Board of Agriculture.

This publication contains information as to the position of agriculture at home and abroad, crop prospects in foreign countries, and further particulars obtained from foreign and colonial reports, Diplomatic and Consular Despatches, and other sources of intelligence accessible to the department; together with notes on dairying, fruit farming, poultry rearing, and other rural industries. Short descriptions of noxious insects and fungi, with appropriate remedies; information relating to wild birds useful to agriculture; statements of the quantities and values of agricultural produce imported and exported; and records of the current prices of grain, meat, dairy products, fruit, and vegetables, are given in each number.

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Government Publications.

LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

THE following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since 1st January, 1905, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

No.	Place.	Price
	EUROPE—	
	Austria-Hungary:	
3328	Trieste, 1904	1½*d.*
	Belgium:	
3327	Antwerp—Shipping ...1904	7½*d.*
3325	Belgium—Finances 1904–05	1*d.*
	Denmark:	
3324	Denmark (Supplementary) 1903	½*d.*
	German Empire and Colonies:	
624	*Memorandum on German Cement*	½*d.*
630	Technical Instruction in Germany: Supplementary and Miscellaneous ..	4*d.*
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3320	Italy 1903	1½*d.*
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628	*Cultivation of Tea in the Caucasus*	½*d.*
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3321	Somaliland Protectorate... ... 1903–04	3*d.*
3322	Tangier and District ...	1½*d.*
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	United States of America:	
3326	Baltimore 1904	1½*d.*
625	*Rice Industry in the United States*	2*d.*
626	*Iron and Steel Exhibits at the St. Louis Exhibition* ...	2½*d.*
627	*United States Railways* ...	2½*d.*
631	*Coal Industry of the United States, 1903*	2½*d.*
	ASIA—	
	China:	
629	Cotton Mills of China ...	2*d.*

Treaty Series.

The following numbers of the Treaty Series issued since the 1st January, 1905, may also be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.:—

No.	———	Price.
	EUROPE— **France:**	
3	Agreements between the United Kingdom and France referring to Arbitration the question of the Grant of the French flag to Muscat Dhows...	½*d.*
5	Convention between the United Kingdom and France respecting Newfoundland and West and Central Africa ...	1*d.*
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7	Declaration between the United Kingdom and France concerning Siam, Madagascar, and the New Hebrides ...	½*d.*
	Norway:	
8	Agreement between the United Kingdom and Norway respecting telegraphic communication between the two countries...	½*d.*

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Government Publications.

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	Russia:	
2	Agreement between the United Kingdom and Russia respecting Joint Stock Companies and other commercial, industrial, and financial associations	½*d.*
	AMERICA, NORTH— Mexico:	
4	Convention between the United Kingdom and Mexico respecting Postal Rates upon letters passing between New Zealand and Mexico	½*d.*
	WEST INDIES— Cuba:	
1	Accession of Cuba to arrangements respecting false indications of origin on goods and the International Registration of Trade Marks	½*d.*

COLONIAL OFFICE REPORTS.

The following Reports relating to H.M. Colonial Possessions issued since 1st January, 1905, may be purchased from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.:—

Annual.

No.	Place.	Price.
—	Cyprus	2½*d.*
444	Basutoland...	3*d.*
445	Leeward Islands	2½*d.*

Miscellaneous.

No.	Place.	Price.
29	Ceylon. Reports on the results of the Mineral Survey in 1903–4	2½*d.*

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THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade (No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.) is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference, and at which, so far as the interests of British trade permit, replies shall be given to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies, so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender; Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c. There is a Sample Room at the offices of the Branch, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute, India, or the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time.

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is now issued weekly at the price of 1*d*. All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

In consequence of the transfer of the Imperial Institute to the Board of Trade from the beginning of 1903, the work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Office of the Imperial Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

Among the branches of work now carried on by the Imperial Institute at South Kensington are the scientific investigation of the economic products of the British Empire with a view to their commercial utilisation, and the superintendence of the arrangement and classification of the Collection of these products which are exhibited at the Institute. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room at 73, Basinghall Street.

The "Imperial Institute Bulletin," issued quarterly, contains information and reports bearing on the work carried out in the Imperial Institute at South Kensington.

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SPECIAL INDIAN AND COLONIAL TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICES.

India.—The India Trade Enquiry Office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., has been established for the purpose of supplying the general public with all available information as to the commercial products, manufactures and trades of British India.

The office is under the superintendence of an India Office official, who is in daily attendance to answer personal or written enquiries.

The current publications of the Government of India dealing with Indian Trade statistics, tariff charges, railways, economic products, &c., are kept in the office, and can be consulted free: the various Indian Directories are also filed.

Canada.—The Canadian Government have secured premises at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where an office has been opened under the designation of "Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Branch," for the convenience of the commercial community.

In due course it is intended to equip and maintain a display room, illustrating the products, resources and manufactures of the Dominion. In the meantime, a Canadian representative attends daily to deal with enquiries and applications in connection with Canadian import and export trade, and to supply information about Canadian matters generally. Personal appointments can be arranged when desired.

Cape of Good Hope.—The Government of the Cape of Good Hope have opened offices at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the purpose of a Commercial Agency for that Colony, which will be under the direction of the Agent-General for the Cape of Good Hope.

Mr. Lewis Atkinson, who has been appointed Commercial Agent, attends daily to deal with enquiries on all Commercial and Trade matters connected with Cape Colony.

Queensland.—For the convenience of the commercial community in the City of London, the Agent-General for Queensland has opened a branch office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where a representative attends daily to give information to enquirers regarding trade, mining, and all other matters in connection with Queensland.

A Reading Room will also be provided in which maps, directories, statutes, Government reports, and other publications of the State can be seen.

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

o Merchants, Manufacturers, and Shippers whose Advertisements appear in the "Board of Trade Journal."

(*Where no folio is given, Advertisement does not appear in this issue.*)

PAGE

sorbent Blottings—
Tullis, R., & Co., Markinch, Fife ... ...

lamantine Clinker (Regd.)—
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...

lmiralty Charts—
Potter, J. D., 145, Minories..

ents (Colonial & Foreign)—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

rricultural Seeds—
Cooper, Taber & Co., 90 & 92, Southwark Street, S.E. ...
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ... 15

r Compressors—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

le, Beer, and Stout Merchants—
Daukes & Co., Strand, London

lkali Manufacturers—
Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire 11
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C

lloys—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

PAGE

Ammonia, Anhydrous, & Liquid—
Brotherton & Co., Leeds (Carbonate of Ammonia, Muriate of Ammonia, &c.)

Ammonia (Anhydrous), Valves for—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Ammunition Manufacturers—
King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham ... ...
Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow C

Antifouling Composition for Ships—
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 26

Anti-friction Metal—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Antimony Paint—
Parker & Lester, London, S.E. 19

Antiquities in Sundials—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Artists' Colours—
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 26

Athletic Goods Manufacturers—
Quaife Bros. & Lilley, 313, Broad Street, Birmingham

PAGE

Bags and Sacks—
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool ... ...

Barrels, Casks, Shooks, &c.—
Rankin, G. & J., Ltd., 2/4, Houlgrove St., Liverpool...

Baths, Porcelain, Enamelled (Cast Iron)—
Clark, T. & C., & Co., Wolverhampton ... ...

Bedding—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., South Place, Finsbury, E.C. ...

Bedsteads (Iron and Brass)—
Bott, J. T., Ltd., Glover Street, Birmingham... ...
Evered & Co., London and Birmingham ... ...
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Bordesley, Birmingham, and South Place, Finsbury, E.C.
Hoyland, John, Ltd., Birmingham and London ...

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Brison, E., & Co., Bristol ...

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Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Billiard Table Manufacturers—
Cox & Yeman, London, S.W.
Edwards, George, London, N.E. ... ...

Binoxide of Barium—
Bessler, Waechter & Co., 18 & 19, Fenchurch Street, E.C. C
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle 1

Bird Seeds and Foods—
Hyde, R., & Co., London, S.E.

Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, J., & Son, 58, City Road, E.C.... ... ...

Biscuit Manufacturers—
Hubbard, Walter, Partick, Glasgow. Export Agent—J. S. Morrison, Son & Jones, Peninsular Buildings, London, E.C. 8

Blankets—Cotton—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester.

Bleaching Powder—
Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire ... 11
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C

Blue Manufacturers—
Edge, Wm., & Sons, Ltd., Bolton... 3

PAGE

Boiler Incrustation (Prevention and Removal of)—
The Boilerine Manufacturing Co., Old Kent Road, S.E...
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Boiler Makers—
Butterley Co. (The), Ltd., Derby ... ...
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Garrett, R., & Son, Ltd., Leiston, R.S.O. ... ...
Hartley & Sugden, Ltd., Halifax ... ...
Marriott & Graham, Govan, N.B. ... ...

Boiler Makers and Heating Engineers—
Riley, J. Ashton, Ltd., Manchester Road, Huddersfield

Boiler Tubes—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ... ...

Bolts, Nuts and Screws—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...
Periam, Herb. W., Birmingham (Screws, Rivets, Washers, Nails (Roofing))

Bone Mill Manufacturers—
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable

PAGE

Boots and Shoes—
Lewis, C. & E., Northampton

Bottled Fruits—
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...

Brass Finishers—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury

Brassfounders—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Brass Plate Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn ... ...

Brass Scrap Merchants—
Adams, John, & Sons, Newcastle-on-Tyne ... ...

Bread & Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Brick & Tile Manufacturers—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Enamelled and Glazed Bricks, Glazed Wall Tiles)
Pearson, E.J. & J., Stourbridge
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Brickmaking Machinery—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

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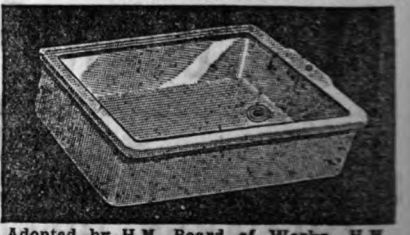

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SCOTLAND.

THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

onze Manufacturers— PAGE

Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. 24

ush Manufacturers—

Brison, E., & Co., Bristol ...

Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...

lbs—

Cooper, Taber & Co., Ltd., London ... ...

ating Manufacturers—

Riley, E., & Co., Providence Street Mills, Leeds ... ...

tton Manufacturers—

Smith & Wright, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

bles and Wires—

Connolly Bros., Ltd., Blackley, Manchester ... ...

Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Telegraph Manufact'ng Co., Ltd., The, Helsby, Warrington ... ...

Candle Manufacturers— PAGE

Ogston & Tennant, Ltd., Aberdeen 23

Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. C

Carbolic Acid—

Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Carbonic Acid Gas Valves—

Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Carboys—

Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks 1

Carpets and Rugs—

Barton, J. E., & Sons, Kidderminster ... ...

Carriage Builders—

Forder & Co., Ltd., Warrant Holders to H.M. the King, Upper St. Martin's Lane, W.C.; Works, Wolverhampton ... ...

Cartridge Manufacturers—

Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow C

Cement Manufacturers—

Peters Bros., London, S.W.... West Kent Portland Cement Co., Burham, nr. Rochester

Charm Manufacturers— PAGE

Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Chemical Manufacturers—

Anglo - Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. 20

Bessler, Waechter & Co., London, E.C. C

Blythe, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs 25

Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., Northwich, Cheshire ... 11

Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith 9

Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle 1

Miller, Jas., Son & Co., Glasgow 6

The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan 2

United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C

Chemical Manure Manufacturers—

Anglo - Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. 20

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Chemical Manure Manufacturers—*continued*—
Richards, G. H., 234, Borough High Street, S.E. ... ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C

Chemical & Physical Apparatus—
Reynolds & Branson, Ltd., Leeds ... ...

Chemists (Manufacturing)—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ... C
Scott & Bowne, Ltd., London, E.C. (Scott's Emulsion) ... 9
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A, Southwark Street, London, S.E. 1

Chilled Shot—
The Abbey Improved Chilled Shot Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne ... ...

Chimney Cowl Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester ... 2

Chimney Shaft, &c., Builder and Repairer—
Lewis, Joseph, 5 and 6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. ... ...

China Clay—
Lovering, John, & Co., St. Austell ... ...

PAGE

China Door Furniture Mnfrs.—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C...

China Electrical Fittings—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C...

China Manufacturers—
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...
Lovering, John, & Co., St. Austell, Cornwall ... ...

Chronometers—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....
Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 and 34, Cockspur Street, London... ...

Clocks and Watches—
Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 and 34, Cockspur Street, London... ...
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...

Cloth Finishing Machines—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee

Clothing (Fustian)—
Brown, R. B., & Sons, Hebden Bridge... ... ...

Clothing Manufacturers (Fustian)—
Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge

Clothing and Woollen Mnfrs.—
Grainger & Smith, Dudley ...

PAGE

Cloths for Machinery—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury

Clutch Manufacturers—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

Coal and Coke—
Cannock Chase Colliery Co., Ltd., Birmingham ... ...
Cory Bros., & Co., Ltd., Cardiff ... ...
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. ...
Wharncliffe Woodmoor Colliery Co., Ltd., Barnsley...
Wigan Coal and Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan ... ...

Coal Depot Proprietors—
Cory Bros. & Co., Cardiff ...
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd. New Cumnock, N.B. ...

Coal Screening Plant—
Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield ... ...

Coatings—Cotton—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester

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Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

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O MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

liery Engines— PAGE
Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield ... ...

liery Owners—
Cannock Chase Colliery Co., The, Ltd., Birmingham ...
Cory Bros. & Co., Cardiff ...
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. ...
Wharncliffe Woodmoor Colliery Co., Ltd., Barnsley...

our Manufacturers—
Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen... 21
Levinstein, Ltd., Manchester
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. 24
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C.
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 26

nposition for Bottoms of Ships—
Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen... 21
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...

npressed Gases (Fittings for)—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

ncertinas (English)—
Lachenal & Co., Little James Street, W.C. ... ...

nfectioners—
Craven, M. A., & Son, Ebor Confectionery Works, York 18

nfectioners' Colours, Essences, &c.—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ... C
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours and Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., Hackney Wick, N.E. 16
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A, Southwark Street, London, S.E. 1

nfectioners (Manufacturing, Wholesale and Export)—
Craven, M. A., & Son, Ebor Confectionery Works, York 18

Coping and Paving Bricks— PAGE
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Copper Tape, Wire Rope, &c.—
Connolly Bros., Ltd., Blackley, Manchester ... ...
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Corks—
Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks 1

Cotton Bagging—
Judge, T. & W., London, S.E.

Cotton Goods—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow ... ...
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury
Spinner, E., & Co., Manchester ... ...

Cotton Waste—
Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester... ...

Cranes, Crab-Winches—
Russell, George, & Co., Motherwell, N.B. ... ...

Creosote—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Damp Wall Compositions—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. 22

Decklights and Porthole Glasses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Birmingham ... ...

Decorated Tin Plates—
The Tinplate Decorating Co., Ltd., Neath ... ...

Decorative Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Delta Metal Manufacturers—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Disinfectants—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... .

Disintegrators— PAGE
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable... ... ...
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ... ...

Distillers—
Crawford, Daniel, & Son, Ltd., Glasgow 8
Dailuaine - Talisker Distilleries, Ltd., Carron, Strathspey 4
Distillers Co., Ltd., The, Edinburgh ... ...

Docks (Floating) Caissons, &c.—
Cardiff Railway Co., The, Bute Docks, Cardiff; London Office, 22A, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W. ... ...
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Northern Engineering Co., Ltd., King's Cross, near Halifax ... ...

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Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester.

Dry Soap—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Dye Merchants—
Edge, Wm., Sons & Co., Bolton... 3

Edge Tools—
Thornton, G., & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Electrical Fittings (China)—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C....

Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and Contractors—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C....
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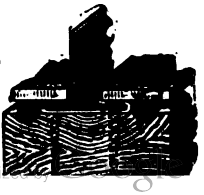

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and Contractors—*continued*—
Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Lewis, Joseph, 5-6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. ... ...

Electric Bells—
Wright, Archibald J., Ltd., 318, Upper St., London, N.

Electric Light Fittings—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C....

Electric Novelties—
Wright, Archibald J., Ltd., 318, Upper St., London, N.

Electrical Screws (Iron, Steel or Brass)—
Acme Lathe Co., Ltd., The, Ardwick, Manchester ...

Emery and Corundum Wheel Manufacturers—
London Emery Works Co., 58H Hatton Garden, London, E.C. 15
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, near Manchester ...

Emery and Glass Cloth—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. 15

Emery and Glass Paper—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. 15

Emery Grindg. Machine Mkrs.—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. 15
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester ... ...

Emery Manufacturers—
London Emery Works Co., 58H, Hatton Garden, London, E.C. 15
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (Emery Wheel and Corundum Wheel Manufacturers) ...

Enamel Colours—
Farquhar & Gill Aberdeen... 21

PAGE

Enamelled Fire Clay Sinks—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock 10

Encaustic Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Sons, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs... ...

Engine Cleaning Waste—
Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester... ...

Engineers—
Northern Engineering Co., Halifax ... ...

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Riley, J. Ashton. Ltd., Manchester Road, Huddersfield

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Aveling & Porter, Rochester (Locomotives, Road Rollers, &c.) ... ...
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Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...
Burrell, C., & Sons, Ltd., Thetford (Locomotives, Steam Rollers, Traction Engines) ... ...
Chidlaw, Robert, Manchester 2
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Garrett, R., & Sons, Leiston, Suffolk ... ...

PAGE

Engineers and Millwrights—*General—continued*—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N. 13
Howorth, J., & Co., Farnworth, Manchester 2
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (various forms of Engineers' Grinding and Polishing Machinery) ... ...
Marriott & Graham, Govan, Glasgow (Boiler Makers)...
Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield ... ...
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee
Russell, G., & Co., Motherwell, N.B. ... ...
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...
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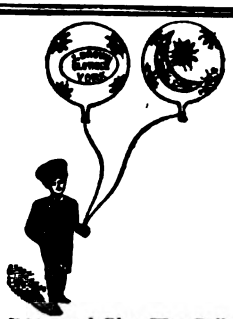
Whiteley, William, & Sons, Lockwood, Huddersfield...
Whittingham & Porter, Hull
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorkshire ... ...

Engine Packings—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Engine-cleaning Waste—
Jones, W. C., Ltd., Manchester ... ...

Engine Roll Bars—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Sheffield ... ...

Essence Manufacturers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ... C
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading 8
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours & Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., The, London, N.E. 16
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. ... ...
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark-street, London, S.E. I



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O MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

ences, &c.—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ... C
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. 1

ential Oils—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ... C
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. 1

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Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn... 2

ibition Fitters—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

cy Goods, Dealers in, Importers, Warehousemen and Manufacturers—
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...

cywood Merchants—
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Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester ... 2

ding Staffs (for Cattle & Sheep)—
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ts (Paper Makers' Machine)—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury

cing (Steel and Iron)—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

e Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... ...

ter Manufacturers—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...

e Bricks—
Calder Fireclay Co., The, Coatbridge... ... ...
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock 10

Fire Bricks—*continued*— PAGE
King Bros., Stourbridge ... 10
Pearson, E. J. & J., Stourbridge
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...

Fire Clay—
King Bros., Stourbridge ... 10
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...

Fire Clay Goods—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Sinks) 10

Flag and Banner Manufacturers—
Piggott Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Flannel Manufacturers—
Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale ... ...
Spinner & Co., Manchester...

Flour Mill Engineers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Flour Millers—
Appleby, Josh., & Sons, Ltd., Liverpool C
Vernon, W., & Sons, Liverpool 6

Forks—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Forwarding Agents—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., 38, Lime Street, E.C. ... ...

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Anglo-Italian Talc and Plumbago Mines Co., Ltd., 26, Old Hall Street, Liverpool

Fruit Essence Manufacturers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ... C
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours & Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., London, N.E. ... 16
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. 1

Furniture Trade Printers—
Smiley & Shaw, London, E.C.

Fustian Clothing Manufacturers—
Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge

Fustian (Piece Goods)— PAGE
Moss Bros. (Hebden Bridge), Ltd. ... ...

Galvanized Iron Manufacturers—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Galvanized Wire Netting—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

Garden Adornments—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Garden Furniture—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

Garden Requisite Manufacturer—
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Gas Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Manchester ... ...

Gas Furnaces—
Cannington, Shaw & Co., St. Helens, Lancashire 25

Gas Governors—
Shaw, Joseph, Huddersfield..

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Hodson Wright & Wood, Halifax ... ...

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Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

General Export Merchants—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E....

Gin Distillers—
Distillers Co., Ltd., The, Edinburgh... ... ...
Hills & Underwood, London, E.C. ... ...

Girders (Iron and Steel)—
Scott, Walter, Ltd., Leeds ...

Glass and Emery Paper—
London Emery Works Co., London, E.C. 15

Glass Bottles—
Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks 1
Cannington, Shaw & Co., Ltd., St. Helens 25

Glass Case Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Glass Manufacturers—
Robinson, J. B., 31, Moor Lane, E.C.... ... ...
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Glass Works—
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Glazed Bricks—
Woolliscroft, G., & Sons, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Glazed Fire Clay Sinks—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock 10

Glaziers' Diamonds—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Glues—
The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan ... 2

Glycerine—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. C

Golf Balls—
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ("Melfort" and "Henley")... ... ...

PAGE

Grain Cleaning Machinery—
Boby, Robt., Ltd., Bury St. Edmunds ... ...

Granite Merchants—
Freeman, John, Sons & Co., Ltd., Penryn, Cornwall (Engineering and Architectural) ... ...

Grease Manufacturers—
Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool 6
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 26

Grinding Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable ... ...

Grinding & Polishing Machry.—
London Emery Works Co., London, E.C. 15
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (Makers of various forms of)... ...

Guano Manufacturers—
Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. 20

Gummed Paper—
Jones, S., & Co., 56, Carter Lane, St. Paul's, E.C. ...

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Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... ...

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Nickson, G. & J., & Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

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Christy & Co., London, E.C.

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Hartley & Sugden, Halifax (Boilers) ... ...
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Hinge and Lock Manufacturers—
Crompton, Thomas, Ashton, near Wigan ... ...

PAGE

Hoes—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ... ...
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Holloware—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Hop Commissioners—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ... 15

Hose—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Hose-Pipe Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Hosiery—
Walker, R., & Sons, Rutland Street, Leicester ... ...

Hosiery & Finishing Machry.—
Berridge, I. L., & Co., Leicester (Sole Proprietors Griswold Knitters) ... ...

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Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford ... ...

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

India-rubber Goods—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C...

India-rubber Manufacturers—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C...
Harris, Joseph, Altrincham (Advertising Balloons, Squeakers, and Rubber Surgical Appliances) ... 14
India-Rubber, Gutta-Percha & Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

njectors—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

nk Manufacturers—
Blackwell & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

nkstands—
Darke, E., 14a, Gt. Marlborough Street, W. ... ...

nsecticides (Horticultural)—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. C

nsulators—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C. ..

ron Buildings—
Ash, J., & Son, Rea Street, South Birmingham ... ...
Humphreys, Ltd., Knightsbridge, London, S.W. ...

ron Plate Workers—
Ash, J., & Son, Rea Street, South Birmingham ... ...

ron Safes—
Ratner Safe Co., Ltd., Hancock Road, Bow, E. 2

ronfounders—
Roberts, J. & S., Ltd., West Bromwich ... ...
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee
Saxby & Farmer, Canterbury Road, London, N.W. ...
Whittingham & Porter, Hull
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

PAGE

Ironmasters—
Baird, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Gartsherrie, N.B. ... ...
Parkgate Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham ... ...
Whiteley & Sons, Ltd., Huddersfield ... ...

Ironstone Adamant Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs. ... ...

Jute Weaving Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Knitting Machine Builders—
Stibbe, G., & Co., Leicester...
Harrison Patent Knitting Machine Co., Ltd., 227, Upper Brook Street, Manchester ... ...

Lacquer Manufacturers—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E... 10
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E. ... ...
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. 24

Lamp Manufacturers—
Bladon, T. E., 99 and 100, Northwood Street, Birmingham; London address, 4, Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, E.C. ... ...

Lathes (Turning, Polishing, &c.)—
Fabricotti, B., London, S.W..
Northern Engineering Co., Ltd., King's Cross, near Halifax ... ...

Launch Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Patricroft, Manchester ...

Launch Oil Engines—
The Seal Motor Co., Hammersmith, London ... ...

Lead Glazing—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N. 13

Lead Manufacturers—
Hall, W., Winstanley Road, Battersea, S.W.... ... ...

Leather Belting (Link)—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

PAGE

Leather Reviver—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E. 10

Leggings and Gaiters—
Wallace, Bailey & Wilkins, Bermondsey, London, S.E.

Lens Manufacturers for Ships and Railway Lamps—
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Letter Cutters—
Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield ...

Lifts—
Clark, Bunnett, & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

Lightning Conductor Manufacturer and Erector—
Lewis, Joseph, 5 & 6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. ... ...

Lime Juice—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. ... ...

Liquorice Wafers—
Hillabys', Ltd., Pontefract... 8

Lithographic Varnish—
Coates Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Locomotive Engine Builders—
Aveling & Porter, Ltd., Rochester ... ...
Burrell, C., & Sons, Ltd., Thetford ... ...
Garrett, R., & Sons, Leiston, Suffolk ... ...

Looking Glass Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2
Robinson, J. B., 31, Moor Lane, E.C.... ... ...

Loom Makers—
Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee

Lubricants—
Bremner, J. A., & Co., Manchester C
Fleming, A. B., & Co., Edinburgh ... ...
Nobel Bros., Petersburg ... 3

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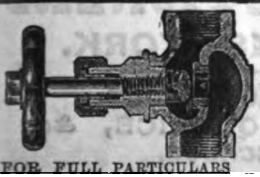

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Lubricants—*continued*— PAGE
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. 24
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. C

Lubricating Oils—
Light, Jas., & Son, Ltd., 9, Rumford Street, Liverpool 8
Nobel Bros., Petersburg ... 3
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Lubricators—
Nobel Bros., Petersburg ... 3

Machine Felts—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury

Machine Knives, Cutters & Blades—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ...

Machine Makers—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee

Machine Screws, Bolts, Nuts, &c.—
Acme Lathe Co., Ltd., The, Ardwick, Manchester ...

Magnesia—
Henry, T. & W., East Street, St. Peters, Manchester ... 16

Manchester Warehousemen—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E. ...

Manures (Chemical)—
Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. 20
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd. Leith 9
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle 1
Thomson, Wm., & Sons, Ltd., Clovenfords by Galashiels (for Vines & Plants) ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C

Marble and Granite Merchant and Importer—
Fabbricotti, B., Pimlico, London, S.W. ... ...

Marble Manufacturers of all Descriptions—
Fabbricotti, B., Pimlico, London, S.W. ... ...

Margarine (for Export)—
Buttapat Dairy Co., Commercial Road, Liverpool ...

Mattresses (Woven Wire)— PAGE
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Hay Mill, Birmingham ... ...
Lane, George, & Sons, Brueton Street, Birmingham ...

Medical Plasters—
De St. Dalmas, A., & Co., Leicester 8

Metal Merchants and Manfrs.—
Billington & Newton, Longport, Staffs. ... ...
Delta Metal Co., Ltd, London, E.C. ... ...
Dugard Bros., Birmingham...
King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

Metal Polish—
Baumgartner, J. F., & Co., London, W. ... ...

Military and Naval Ornaments—
Narborough, F., 40, 42, 44, Lombard Street, Birmingham ... ...
Wilkins, T. B., 52, Clement Street, Birmingham... ...

Mine Owners—
Wigan Coal & Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan (Producers of Best House, Gas and Steam Coals, and Wigan Cannel)

Mineral Waters—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. ... ...

Mining Lamps (all classes)—
Cooke, Joseph, & Son (Belmont Passage), 203, Lawley Street, Birmingham ... ...

Mortar and Pestle Manfrs.—
Bullers, Ltd., London E.C....

Mortice Furniture—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C....

Mosaic and Tiles Decoration—
Geary, Walker & Co., 11, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C. ... ...
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs. ... ...

Motors (Gas Tight)—
Hodgson, Wright & Wood, Halifax ... ...

Mushroom Ketchup— PAGE
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading 8

Musical Instrument Manfrs.—
Lachenal & Co., London, W.C.

Mustard Seed—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ... 15

Nails—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

Name Plate Makers—
Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield ...

Newspapers—
Colliery Guardian, 49, Essex Street, Strand, W.C. ... 12

Night Lights—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. C

Oar Manufacturers—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool ... ...

Office Fittings—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2

Oilcake (Linseed and Cotton)—
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B. 9

Oil Cans—
Bladon, T. E., 99 & 100, Northwood Street, Birmingham; London address, 4, Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, E.C. ... ...
Kaye, Joseph, & Sons, Ltd., Leeds ... ...

Oil Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Manchester ... ...
The Seal Motor Co., Hammersmith, London ... ...

Oil Mill Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

Oil Refiners, Distillers, & Mfrs.—
Bremner, Jno. A., & Co., Manchester C
Fleming, A. B., & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh... ... ...
Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool 6

M. A. CRAVEN & SON,

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Oil Refiners, Distillers, and Manufacturers—*continued*— PAGE

Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. C
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C. ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 26

Opal Tiling—
The Permanent Decorative Glass Co., Ltd., Lancaster..

Ore Crushing Machines—
Baxter, W. H., Leeds ... ...

Ovens—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Oxfords Manufacturers—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow ... ...

Oxides—
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Oxygen, Cylinder Valves for—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Paint Manufacturers—
Hoyle, Robson, Barnett & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne...
Parker & Lester, London, S.E. (Antimony Paint) ... 19
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Robinson, E., & Co., Ltd., City Works, Sheffield ...
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. 22
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 26

Paper Bag Makers (Home and Export)—
Higham Bros., Cone Works, Farnworth, near Bolton, Lancs.... ... ...

Paper Bags—
Smith, Stone & Knight, Ltd., Union Paper Mills, Birmingham ... ...

Paper Makers— PAGE
Smith & McLaurin, Messrs., Ltd., Milliken Park, Scotland (Coated and Gummed Papers) ... ...
Tullis, R., & Co., Markinch, Fife ... ...

Paper Makers and Stationers (Wholesale and Export)—
Annandale, John, & Sons, Ltd., Shotley Grove, Durham ... ...
Dickinson, J., & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Ford, T. B., Loudwater, High Wycombe (Blottings)
Hodgkinson, W. S., & Co., Wells, Somerset ... ...
Hollingsworth & Co., Maidstone ... ...
Olive & Partington, Manchester ... ...

Paper Makers' Steel and Bronze Tools—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ...

Paper Makers' Tools—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Sheffield ... ...

Parquet Flooring—
Geary, Walker & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Patent Fuel Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

Pavement Light Lenses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Birmingham ... ...

Paving Bricks—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Pen Manufacturers—
Gillott, J., & Sons, Birmingham ... ...

Perfumers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... C

Perfumery Materials— PAGE
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... C
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A, Southwark Street, London, S.E. 1

Phosphor Bronze—
Billington & Newton, Longport, Staffs. ... ...

Photographic Process—
Platinotype Co., The, London, W.C. ... ...

Pianos, Organs, and Small Instruments—
Riley's on Constitution Hill, Birmingham ... ...

Pickles—
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading 8

Picks—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Pins (Toilet)—
Edridge, Merrett & Co., Ltd., Legge Street, Birmingham

Pistons—
Buckley, W., & Co., Millsands, Sheffield ... .

Plate and Bar Manufacturers—
Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby ... ...

Plate Glass Manufacturers—
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C.

Plumbago—
Anglo-Italian Talc and Plumbago Mines Co., Ltd., 26, Old Hall Street, Liverpool

Poles, Telegraph—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C...

Porcelain Paint—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. 22

Portable Buildings—
Humphreys, Ltd., Knightsbridge, London, S.W. ...

Portable Iron and Wood Buildings—
Iles, Robert, Ltd., Walham Green, London, S.W. ... 2

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Portland Cement— PAGE
Peters Bros., 34, Victoria Street, S.W. ... ...
West Kent Portland Cement Co., Burham, Rochester, Kent ... ...

Preservative for Stone, &c.—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. 22

Printers, Publishers, and Engravers—
Colliery Guardian Co., Ltd., 49, Essex Street, Strand, W.C. 12
Sheppard & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
Smily & Shaw, London, E.C.

Printing Ink Manufacturers—
Blackwell & Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Coates Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Proprietary Articles, Specialities, &c.—
Baumgartner, J. F., & Co., London, W. ("La Brillantine" Metallic Powder)
Dalmas, A. de St., & Co., Leicester (Medical Plaisters) 8
Henry's Calcined Magnesia (T. & W. Henry), Manchester 16
Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Co., Lincoln (Clarke's Blood Mixture).. 26
Scott & Bowne, Ltd., London E.C. (Scott's Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil)... ... 9

Provision Merchants (Wholesale and Export)—
Griffiths, McAlister & Co., Liverpool ... ...
Gunson, Geo., Sons & Co. Liverpool ... ...
MacSimon's Stores, Ltd., Canning Place, Liverpool..
Nickson, G. & J., & Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Provisions (Importers and Exporters)—
Gunson, Geo., Sons & Co., 3, Atherton Street, Liverpool

Pulley Blocks— PAGE
Godfrey, J. T., Loughborough

Pulleys—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

Pumping Engines—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...
Simpson, Jas., & Co, Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...

Pumps—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Quarry Owners—
Freeman, J., Son & Co., London, W. ... ...
Pawson Bros., Ltd., Morley, Yorks ... ...
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Quilts, Covers, Toiletings, &c.—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester

Quiltings and Piques—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester

Railway Appliances—
Saxby & Farmer, Ltd., Canterbury Road, London, N.W. (Railway Signals, &c.) ... ...

Railway Brass Foundry—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Heath Mill Lane, Birmingham ... ...

Railway Lamp Lenses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham

Railway Signals—
Saxby & Farmer, Ltd., London, N.W. ... ...

Rain Water Separator—
Rogers, H. J., Shottermill, Haslemere ... ...

Reducing Valves for Compressed Gases—
Scotch & Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Refrigerators— PAGE
Haslam Foundry and Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Derby ... ...
Pulsometer Engineering Co., The, Reading and London

Retorts—
Stevens, J., & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Rings and Springs—
Buckley, Wm., & Co., Millsands, Sheffield... ... ...

Rivet, Bolt, and Nut Manfrs.—
Gadd, Thos., Rowley Regis, Dudley ... ...
Guest, Keen, & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...
Periam, H. W., Birmingham
Priest, B., & Sons, Oldhills, Staffs ... ...

Roof Glazing—
Grover & Co., Ltd London, N. 13

Roofing (Patent)—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N. 13

Roofing Tile Machinery—
Woolliscroft. G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs. ... ...

Roofing Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Rope Manufacturers—
Piggott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Rubber Tyres—
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N. ... ...

Sacks and Bags—
Judge, T. & W., London, E.C. (Cotton) ... ...
Knowles, Clarence C., & Co., 19, Brunswick Street, Liverpool, and London, E. ...
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool ... ...

Saddlery, Harness, &c., Mfrs.—
Rawle & Son, 231 and 232, Blackfriars Road, London, S.E. ... ...

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Hobbs, Hart, & Co., Ltd., London, N. ... ...
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O MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

fety Fuse Manufacturers—
Nobel's Explosive Co., Ltd., Glasgow C

lt—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C

vage and Dismantling Contractors—
Adams, John, & Sons, Broad Chare, Newcastle-on-Tyne

itary Appliances—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Drain Pipes and Traps, Sanitary Earthenware, W.C. Basins, Urinals, and Washdown Closets, Enamelled Sinks) 10

itary Paints—
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...

itary Potters—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock 10

ice Manufacturers—
Locks, Chas., & Co., Ltd., Reading 8

r Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... ...

ap Iron—
Adams, John, & Sons, Broad Chare, Newcastle-on-Tyne

ew Hooks, Screw Eyes—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

owing Tackle—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ... ...

ews and Spindles—
Dodd, Joseph, & Co.. Chester Works, Aston, Birmingham

ews, Washers, Nails, &c.—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...
Meriam, H. W., Birmingham

s—
Ryor, E. & Son, Sheffield ...

l Merchants—
Askain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ... 15

PAGE

Seeds—
Cooper, Taber & Co., Ltd., London ... ...

Serge—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford... ... ...
Hamlyn Bros.. Ltd., Buckfastleigh, Devon ... ...
Spinner & Co., Manchester...

Sewing Machines—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee

Shaftings, Pulleys, Plummer Blocks, &c.—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

Sheep Dip (both Arsenical and Nicotine)—
Richards, G. H., 234, Borough High Street. S.E. ... ...

Sheep Deep (Nicotine)—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... C

Sheep Dip Manufacturers—
Cooper, Wm., & Nephews, Berkhamsted, Makers of the Original Powder Dip...

Sheep Shearing Machines—
Cooper. Wm., & Nephews, 142, Illinois Street, Chicago, and Berkhamsted, England

Sheers—
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...

Shipbuilders—
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...

Shipping Agents—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Ship Stores and Chandlery—
MacSymon's Stores, Ltd., Canning Place, Liverpool..

Ships' Berths—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Bordesley, Birmingham... ...

PAGE

Ships' Lamp Lenses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham

Shirtings—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow ... ...

Shoe Rivets—
Edridge, Merrett & Co., Ltd., Legge Street, Birmingham

Shop Fittings—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn 2
Harris & Sheldon, Ltd., Stafford Street, Birmingham...

Shot (Hard and Soft)—
The Abbey Improved Chilled Shot Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne ... ...

Shovels—
Thornton, George, & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Shuttle Block Manufacturers—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool ... ...

Silk Weaving Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Sinks—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock, N.B.... 10

Slate Merchants and Manufrs.—
Davies Bros., Portmadoc, N. Wales ... ...
Williams, Richard, & Co., Portmadoc ... ...

Slipper Manufacturers—
Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge

Slipway Machinery—
Day, Summers, & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...

Soap Manufacturers—
Ogston & Tennant, Ltd., Aberdeen 23
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. C
Tennant, Charles, & Co., Glasgow ... ...

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Soap Manufacturers—*contd.* PAGE
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Hazlehurst Soap Works, Runcorn 3
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester (Hard and Soft Soaps) ... ...

Soap Powders—
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Soap Stone—
Anglo-Italian Talc and Plumbago Mines Co., Ltd., 26, Old Hall Street, Liverpool

Soda—
Brunner, Mond, & Co, Northwich, Cheshire 11
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool C

Spades—
Thornton, George, & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Sponge Cloths, &c.—
Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester... ...

Stamp and Punch Makers—
Pryor, Edward, & Son, Sheffield ... ...

Stationers (Manufacturing and Export)—
Dickinson, John, & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Stay Busk Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ...

Steam Boilers—
Hartley & Sugden, Halifax...

Steam Gauge—
Hodson, Wright & Wood, Halifax ... ...

Steam Pulsating Pumps—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...

Steam Saw Mills—
Fabbricotti, B., London, S.W.

Steam Valves— PAGE
Shaw, J., Albert Works, Huddersfield 17

Steel Castings, Steel and Iron Forgings, &c.—
Baird, W., & Co., Glasgow ...
Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby
Fairley, J., & Sons, Birmingham ... ...
Lanarkshire Steel Co., The, Motherwell, N.B. ... ...
Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Steel and Iron Shafting, &c.—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee
Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Steel Manufacturers—
Brown, Bayley's Steel Works, Ltd., Sheffield ... ...
Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... ...
Fairley, J., & Sons, Birmingham ... ...
Lanarkshire Steel Co., The, Motherwell, N.B. ... ...
Parkgate Iron and Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham ... ...
Power, F. A., & Sons, Saltley, Birmingham ... ...
Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Steel Pen Makers—
Gillott, J., & Sons, London and Birmingham... ... ...

Steel Ropes—
Cradock, G., & Co., Wakefield

Steel Tubes—
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Strong Rooms— PAGE
Hobbs, Hart & Co., Ltd., London, N.... ... ...

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PAGE

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PAGE

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Gradwell, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness, Lancs.

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Tinplate Decorating Co., Ltd., The, Neath ... ...

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Yost Typewriter Co., Ltd., The, London, E.C. ... ...

PAGE

Tyre Manufacturers—
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N.... ... ...

Valves for Compressed Gases—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Varnish Manufacturers—
Blackwell & Co., Dyer's Buildings, E.C.... ... ...
Flack, Henry, London, S.E... 10
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E. ... ...
Palmer, W. H., & Co., 82, Old Street, E.C. 24
Parker & Lester, London, S.E. (Parker's Imperial Black)... 19
Robinson, E., & Co., Ltd., City Works, Sheffield ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 26

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Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E ... C
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PAGE

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Periam, Herbert W., Ltd., Floodgate-street Works, Birmingham ... ...

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Narborough, F., 42 & 44, Lombard-street, Birmingham ... ...

White Lead Manufacturers—
Mersey White Lead Co., Ltd., Warrington ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 26

PAGE

Wine and Spirit Merchants—
Chaplin, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, W.C. 4
Crawford, Daniel, & Son, Ltd., Glasgow 8
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Geary, Walker & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Wood Stains—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E. 10
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E. ... ...

PAGE

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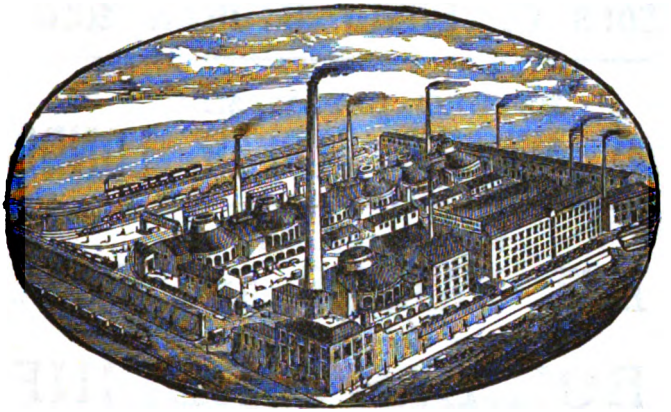

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(With which is incorporated the "Imperial Institute Journal.")

Edited by the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

MARCH 30, 1905.

	PAGE
OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE	579
BRITISH TRADE ABROAD (AUSTRIAN COMPETITION. TRIESTE. SERVIA.)	590
TRADE OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND BRITISH POSSESSIONS	592
QUICKSILVER PRODUCTION OF THE WORLD	593
TRADE OF THE ORANGE RIVER COLONY...	594
REPORT OF INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION IN ORANGE RIVER COLONY ...	595
TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS	596
SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT	610
MINERALS, METALS, AND MACHINERY	612
AGRICULTURE	613
MISCELLANEOUS	614
STATISTICAL TABLES	618
GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS (BOARD OF TRADE,* FOREIGN OFFICE, COLONIAL OFFICE, &c.)	620

For list of contents in detail see p. xxxvii. *of Advertisements.*

* *For list of principal publications of Board of Trade see p.* xxxv. *of Advertisements.*

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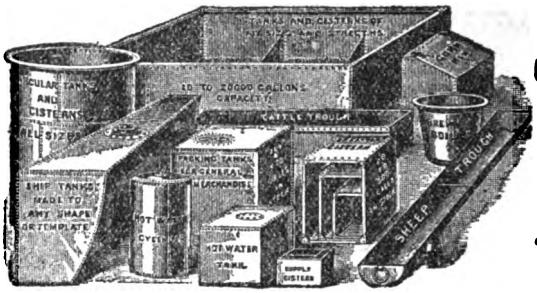

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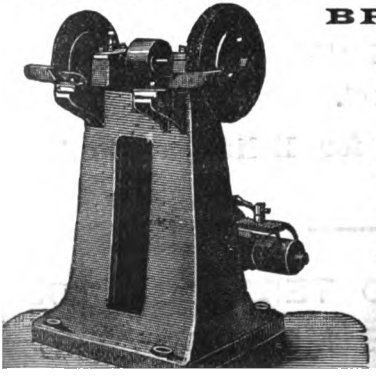

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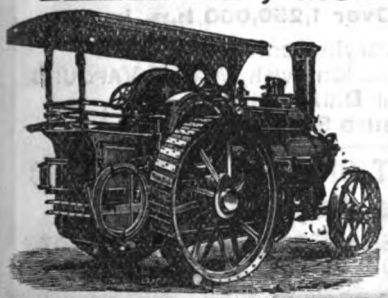

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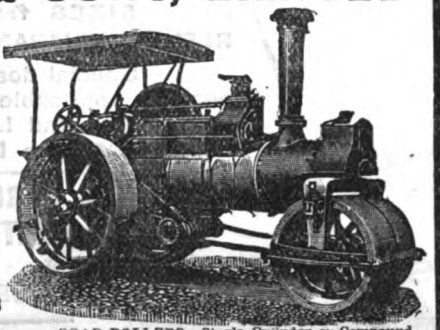

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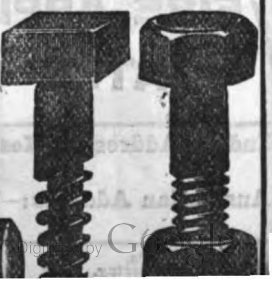

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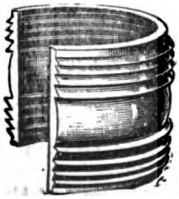

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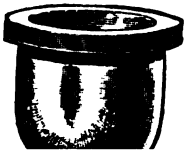

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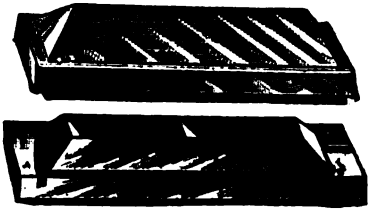

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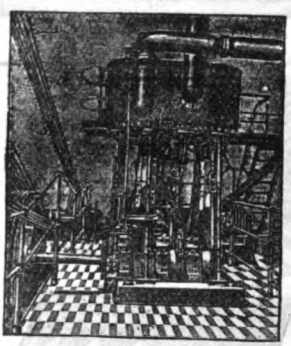

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CONTRACTS.

Asylums Committee of the London County Council.

To Builders and Contractors.

The Asylums Committee are prepared to receive tenders for the erection of farm buildings at the Horton Asylum and at the Epileptic Colony, both on the Horton Manor Estate, Epsom, Surrey.

Instructions for tender and forms of tender and contract, with specifications, can be obtained from the Acting Clerk of the Committee, 6, Waterloo Place, S.W., on and after Monday, March 27th, 1905, upon payment of £5, for which payment a receipt will be given, and the plans then may be inspected at the office of the Asylums Engineer, at 6, Waterloo Place between the hours of 10 and 4, except Saturday, and on that day between the hours of 10 and 1 p.m. Tenderers can also obtain permission from the Engineer to view the sites.

The amount deposited will, after the Committee have come to a decision upon the tenders received, but not before, be returned to the tenderer, provided he shall have sent in bona-fide tenders for both works, and shall not have withdrawn same.

Tenders must be on the printed forms and be accompanied by the forms of contract and schedules thereto and forms of bond. They must be enclosed in the authorised cover, sealed and endorsed, "Tender for Erection of Farm Buildings, Horton," and be delivered at the office of the Committee not later than 12 o'clock noon on Saturday, the 15th of April, 1905, after which time no tender will be received.

Any tenders not made on the printed form or not filled up and completed in every particular in accordance with the instructions will be rejected.

The Committee do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tenders.

The contractor will have to enter into bonds in the sum of £600, with approved sureties as security for the performance of the contract.

The contract will bind the contractor to pay all workmen employed by him the rates of wages and to observe the hours of labour specified in the schedule forming part of the contract—i.e., so far as all work done within 20 miles of Charing Cross is concerned, the rates of wages and hours of labour which at the date of the tender are recognised by associations of employers and trade unions and in practice obtained in London; and, so far as work performed outside this radius is concerned to pay the rates of wages and observe the hours of labour recognised by associations of employers and trade unions in the district where the work is carried out.

H. F. KEENE,
Acting Clerk of the Committee.
London Asylums Committee Office,
6, Waterloo Place, S.W.
March 23rd, 1905.

Borough of Morley.

Tenders are invited for the supply of the following materials for the year ending March 31, 1906, viz.:—

Granite and dross, Yorkshire setts, flags and kerbs, sewer and drain pipes, pitch, creosote oil, sand, Portland cement, lime, manhole and ventilating covers, gully grates and frames, and weed brooms.

Forms of tender and further particulars may be obtained on application to the undersigned.

Tenders, sealed and endorsed "Tender for ——," to be delivered at the Borough Engineer's Office; Town Hall, Morley, not later than Wednesday, 5th day of April.

The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

W. E. PUTMAN, A.M.I.C.E.,
Borough Engineer & Surveyor,
Hall, Morley,
March 21st, 1905.

APPOINTMENTS.

Borough of Bexhill.

Applications invited for position of Assistant Surveyor and Building Inspector. Salary commencing at £80 per annum. Previous experience in Borough Engineer's office necessary, with knowledge of surveying, building construction, preparation of plans and apportionments under the Private Street Works Act, 1892. Applications, together with copies of three testimonials, to be forwarded to me on or before the 8th of April, endorsed "Assistant Surveyor."

Canvassing a disqualification.

T. E. RODGERS,
Town Clerk.

March 22nd, 1905.

Urban District Council of Featherstone.

Assistant Surveyor.

The Council require the services of an Assistant Surveyor for a period of twelve months.

Applicants must have had previous experience in similar duties, and be between the ages of 25 and 35 years. Salary, £75 per annum.

Applications, stating age, experience and qualifications, together with copies only of two recent testimonials (which will not be returned), to be received by me on or before the 31st of March.

CHARLES LOWDEN,
Clerk to the said Council.
Ropergate, Pontefract,
March 14th, 1905.

Alton Urban District Council.

Surveyor and Inspector of Nuisances.

The Alton Urban District Council are desirous of receiving applications for the appointment of Surveyor for the Urban District of Alton, at a salary of £90 per annum.

The Surveyor will, subject to the approval of the Local Government Board, be appointed Inspector of Nuisances, at a salary of £90 per annum, and must possess the certificate of the Sanitary Institute.

He will be required to devote his whole time to the duties of his office, and generally to perform the duties of Surveyor and Inspector of Nuisances under the Public Health Acts.

Applications, on a form to be obtained from the Clerk, must be sent in to me on or before the 19th day of April next.

Canvassing the members of the Council will disqualify.

WILLIAM FRIMMER,
Clerk of the Council.
Alton, Hants,
March 23rd, 1905.

Hungerford Rural District Council.

Surveyor Wanted.

The above Council invite applications for the appointment of a Surveyor of Highways for their district, comprising about 129 miles of District Roads within an area of about 43,325 acres.

Applicants must be between twenty-five and forty years of age.

The appointment will be for one year, commencing on the 1st of May next, at a salary of £80, inclusive of all expenses, except stationery and postages.

The person appointed will be required to reside in the district at Hungerford, or some place near thereto, to be approved by the Council, and to devote the whole of his time to the duties of his office.

A bond for £200 of an approved Guarantee Society will be required for the faithful discharge of the duties.

Canvassing is prohibited.

Applications, in candidate's handwriting, stating age, present and previous occupations and experience, with copies of not more than three testimonials of recent date, to be sent to me not later than Saturday, April 1st.

Notice will be sent to any candidate required to attend before the Council.

H. DÓ W. ASTLEY,
Clerk.
Hungerford,
March 22nd, 1905.

CONTRACTS.

East Sussex County Council.

To Builders.

Tenders are invited for the erection of the proposed new offices in Fisher Street, Lewes, for the Education Department.

Plans, specifications and conditions of contract can be seen at the County Surveyor's Office, County Hall, Lewes, after Friday 31st of March next, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Bills of quantities may be obtained after Friday, 31st of March, on application to Mr. F. J. Wood, County Surveyor, Lewes, on payment of a deposit of 5 guineas, which deposit will be returned upon the receipt of a bona fide tender.

The contractor whose tender is accepted will be required to enter into a contract with the County Council, and, if required, enter into a bond, with two approved sureties, for the due carrying out of the contract.

Tenders, endorsed "Tenders for New Education Offices," to be addressed and delivered to F. Merrifield, Esq., County Hall, Lewes, not later than 10 a.m. on Monday, 17th of April, 1905.

The County Council does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender, and will not pay any expenses in connection with the preparation thereof.

FRED. J. WOOD, M.S.A.,
County Surveyor.

County Hall, Lewes,
March 6th, 1905.

County Council of Middlesex.

To Contractors.

The Highways Committee of the above Council invite tenders for carrying out certain works of tar paving, granite kerbing and channelling on the main road, Burnt Oak, Edgware.

The approximate length of the kerbing, channelling and footpath is about 1,000 feet.

Plans may be seen, and specifications, forms of tender and particulars may be obtained at my offices, on and after the 27th inst.

Tenders, endorsed "Paving Work, Edgware Road," must be made out on the form supplied, and delivered not later than 12 noon on the 4th of April, 1905, to Sir Richard Nicholson, Middlesex Guildhall, Westminster, S.W.

The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

HY. T. WAKELAM, M.I.C.E.,
County Engineer.

Middlesex Guildhall,
Westminster, S.W.
March 21st, 1905.

Harrogate Main Drainage.

North Disposal Works.

Tenders for Filtering Material.

The Corporation are prepared to receive tenders from Slag Merchants, &c., for the supply and delivery of about 6,500 tons of Honeycombed Slag, and about 6,000 tons of Clinkers, broken to the various sizes required; the delivery to extend over twelve months.

Specification and forms of tender can be obtained at the offices of the undersigned up to April 5th, 1905.

Sealed tenders, marked "Filtering Material," together with samples, to be delivered, free of expense, at the Engineer's office, not later than April 8th, 1905.

The Corporation do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender, and they reserve to themselves the right to accept such part of any tender as they may deem proper.

EDW. WILSON DIXON, M.INST.C.E.,
Engineer.

[illegible] Manager.

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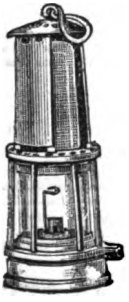

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And at 170, REGENT ROAD, LIVERPOOL.
Tele. Address—"Lignum, Liverpool." *Tele. No.* 6333.
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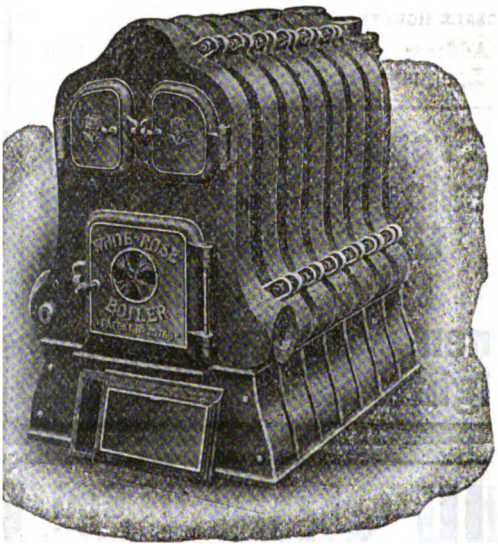

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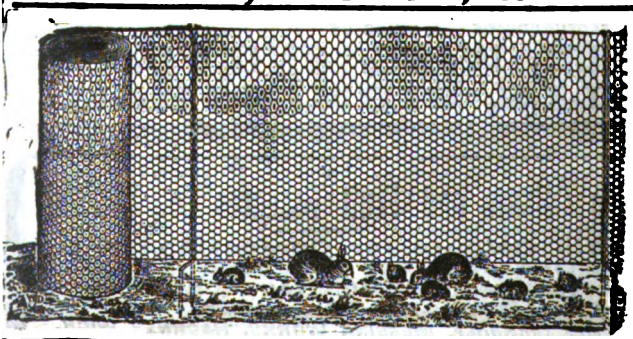

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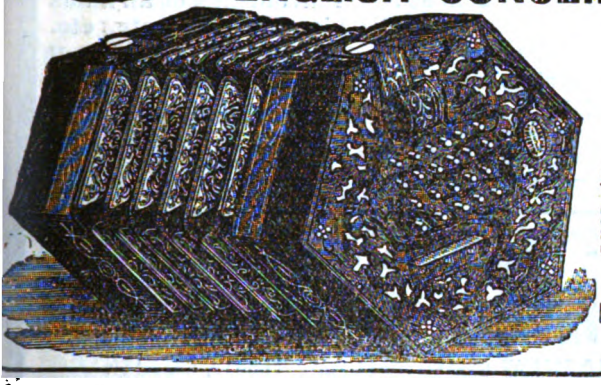

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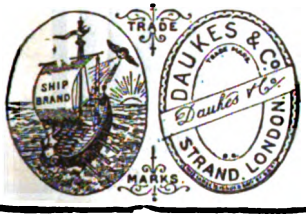

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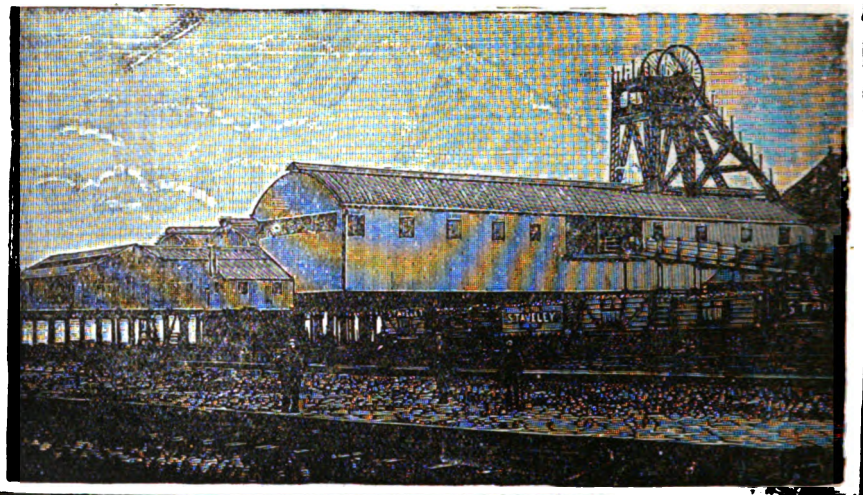

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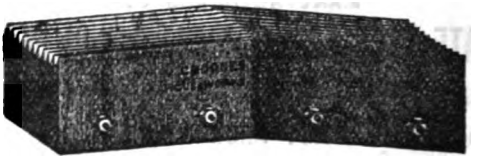

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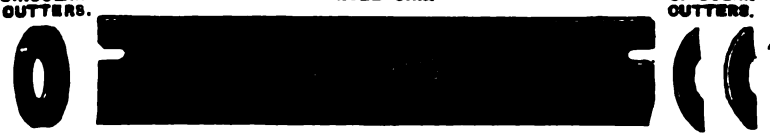

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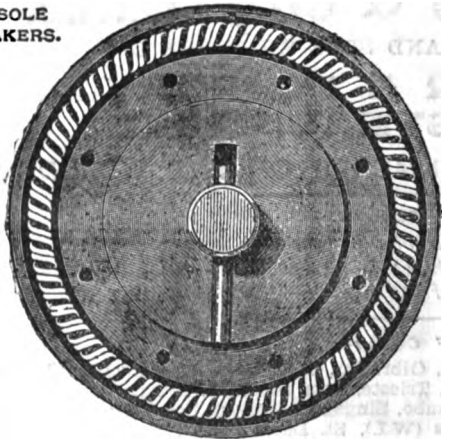

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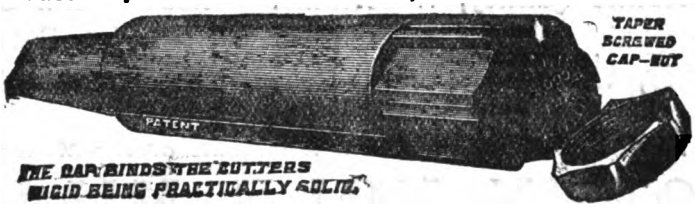

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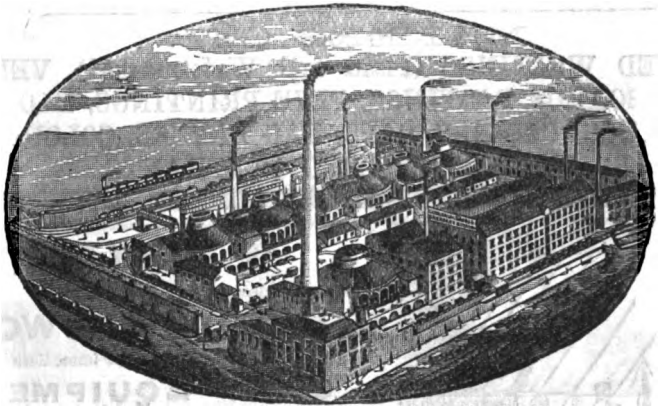

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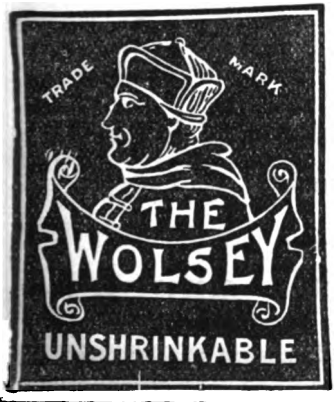

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AREA, etc.—The present BUTE DOCKS are 111 acres in extent, and vessels loading up to 12,000 tons regularly trade there. The NEW SOUTH DOCK, which is rapidly approaching completion, will have a water area of 50 acres. It is 2,450 feet in length, 600 feet in breadth, and 50 feet in depth from the coping; and will be capable of accommodating the LARGEST VESSELS AFLOAT. The Sea Lock will be 850 FEET IN LENGTH, and 90 FEET IN BREADTH, with a depth of water over the cill of 42 FEET at ordinary spring tides, and 32 FEET at ordinary neap tides. Two Large Graving Docks, up to 850 FEET IN LENGTH, and entered from THIS DOCK, are about to be constructed.

MACHINERY AND APPLIANCES.—The Bute Docks are equipped with the most IMPROVED Appliances for the discharging and loading of vessels with dispatch; the greater portion being worked by HYDRAULIC PRESSURE. There is an ample equipment of Cranes of various power up to 70 TONS, as well as Grain Elevators, &c., &c.

Special attention may be drawn to the NEW 70-TON CRANE in the ROATH DOCK, thus enabling THE CARDIFF RAILWAY COMPANY to ship or unship THE HEAVIEST WEIGHTS.

COAL SHIPPING FACILITIES.—Coal is being shipped at these Docks by the ordinary Fixed, as well as Moveable Staiths; as also by the LEWIS-HUNTER PATENT COALING CRANES. The Cardiff Railway Company have the EXCLUSIVE use in the Bristol Channel of the LEWIS HUNTER Coaling Cranes, which have proved by far the most satisfactory appliances for shipping Welsh Coal, with dispatch and the Least Possible Breakage. Colliery screened coal shipped by these cranes being equal to double screened coal shipped by ordinary Staiths, and thereby ensuring to the purchaser an INCREASED VALUE OF AT LEAST ONE SHILLING per ton over that of coal put on board by shipping appliances at other Docks, besides ensuring great SAVING IN BREAKAGE and uniformity of distribution throughout the cargo of any small coal that might exist; thus minimising any risk of spontaneous ignition from small coal in cargoes bound for distant ports. THREE OR MORE CRANES can be worked simultaneously into one vessel, and as much as 250 TONS have been shipped by one crane in an hour, and 4,773 TONS have been shipped into a vessel in 10 HOURS. Shippers attach so much importance to the advantages of these Cranes that they frequently elect to wait some time for a CRANE BERTH rather than have their coal shipped by the usual staiths.

The NEW SOUTH DOCK will be entirely equipped with these COALING CRANES, in deference to the wishes of so many shippers and buyers of CARDIFF COAL.

WAREHOUSES AND TRANSIT SHEDS.—Good accommodation for the storage of GRAIN, PROVISIONS, &c., &c., BONDED AND FREE.

WHARF SPACE AND YARDS.—Large provision is made for stacking Timber, Deals, Iron Ore, &c. Timber Ponds, 28 ACRES in extent, with COMPETITIVE RAILWAY COMMUNICATION TO ALL PARTS.

FACILITIES FOR SHIP REPAIRS, etc.—There are 10 PRIVATE GRAVING AND FLOATING DOCKS, ranging up to 600 feet in length, with SEPARATE PROPRIETARIES, and one PUBLIC GRAVING DOCK 600 FEET in length. There are also several MARINE ENGINEERING FIRMS, thus giving Shipowners an opportunity of obtaining tenders for repairs of every description.

RAILWAY ACCOMMODATION.—CARDIFF is the NATURAL PORT for BIRMINGHAM and the MIDLAND DISTRICT, as the London & North Western, Midland, and Great Western Railway Companies have direct communication from the Ship's Side.

DOCK CHARGES.—These are much below the average of our Great Ports. Vessels can generally procure an outward cargo to any PORT in the WORLD, thus giving the Bute Docks an advantage for Imports, as vessels do not require to change Ports.

TRADE.—The BUTE DOCKS were opened in the year 1839, and the IMPORTS and EXPORTS in 1902 were as follows:—Imports, 2,117,510 TONS; Exports, 7,854,087 TONS; Total, 9,801,597 TONS.

CATTLE IMPORTATION.—The BUTE DOCKS are the ONLY DOCKS in South Wales which have permission from the BOARD OF TRADE to land FOREIGN CATTLE. Excellent CATTLE LAIRS, SLAUGHTER HOUSES, and CHILL ROOMS are erected adjacent to the Wharf in the deepest-water dock, with Railways leading into them, having communication with all PARTS.

COLD STORAGE.—Ample Accommodation of the most modern description is provided for the storage of dead meat, poultry, provisions, vegetables, &c.

STATUS OF CARDIFF.—CARDIFF now occupies the position of being the FIRST PORT in the UNITED KINGDOM for shipping cleared to FOREIGN COUNTRIES and BRITISH POSSESSIONS and the PREMIER PORT in the WORLD for the SHIPMENT OF COAL.

NOTE.—The Bute Docks are the only Docks situated in the Town of Cardiff. Vessels using the Bute Docks thereby save their owners and Captains from loss of time in making journeys between the Vessels and the Merchants' and Brokers' Offices, Banks, Custom House, Post Office, &c., all of which Offices are adjacent to the Bute Docks.

The fullest information on all matters will be readily granted on application to the

CARDIFF RAILWAY COMPANY, BUTE DOCKS, CARDIFF.

KENT'S THICK COAL

RAISED AT

THE WHARNCLIFFE WOODMOOR COLLIERY, BARNSLEY.

GAS COAL.

The following extracts are from an ANALYSIS made by Mr. R. O. PATERSON, C.E., Gasworks, Cheltenham (8th August, 1894):—

Gas per Ton of Coal	11,760 cubic feet.
Illuminating Power	17·44 candles.
Coke per Ton of Coal	1,367 lbs.
Sulphur	0·96 per cent.
Ash	1.96 "
Ammoniacal Liquor per Ton of Coal	19·7 gallons.
Tar per Ton of Coal	12·2 "

STEAM COAL.

ANALYSIS OF KENT'S THICK STEAM COAL.

Specific Gravity (Water at 1000)	1·271
Weight of one cubic foot	79·4 lbs.
Absolute calorific value and evaporating power represented in pounds of water at 212 degrees Fahrenheit, capable of being turned into steam by the thorough combustion of one pound of Coal	15·45 "
Carbon in Coal	51·4 per cent.
Sulphur	07 "
Ash	29 "
Hydrogen	41 "
Oxygen	82 "
Nitrogen	27 "
	100·0

For Price, &c., apply to the

WHARNCLIFFE WOODMOOR COLLIERY CO., LTD., BARNSLEY.

Mr. GEORGE D. WARD Coal Exchange, London, or to Mr. W. H. HARVEY, 17, Old Queen St., Westminster, S.W.

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Board of Trade Journal.

MARCH 30TH, 1905.

CONTENTS.

PAGE

Openings for British Trade 579

British Colonies, &c.:—

British India.—Tenders for Ballast Wagons.
" " Wrought Iron Material.
" " Railway Material and Tools.
" " Railway Stores.

Canada.—Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.
Co-operation in Apple Trade.

Transvaal.—Tenders for Switchboards, &c.

Foreign Countries:—

Openings for Trade in Sweden, Netherlands, Belgium, Portugal, Portuguese East Africa, Spain, Italy, Bulgaria, Servia, Chile, Peru and China.

Exhibitions:—Bordeaux, Lyons and Rouen. Liége. Milan.

British Trade Abroad (Austrian Competition. Trieste. Servia.) 590

Trade of Foreign Countries and British Possessions 592

Quicksilver Production of the World 593

Trade of the Orange River Colony 594

Report of Industrial Commission in Orange River Colony 595

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations 596

United Kingdom. Australian Commonwealth. New Zealand. Natal. British Guiana. Southern Nigeria. Barbados. Russia. Finland. Netherlands. Italy. Italy—Japan. Turkey. United States of America. Nicaragua. Japan.

Shipping and Transport 610

Proposed Reductions in Railway Rates from South African Coast Ports to Johannesburg. New Forwarding Rates at Durban. Reduction in Gold Coast Wharfage Dues. Rules for the Regulation of Traffic, and Carriage of Goods on the River Volta (Gold Coast). Completion of Vinh-Hanoi Railway. Freight Rates for Meat and Butter from Argentina to the United Kingdom.

Minerals, Metals, and Machinery 612

Enquiry under the Boiler Explosions Act. Mineral Products of the Leeward Islands. Bitumen in Syria. Production of Open-hearth Steel in the United States in 1904.

Agriculture... 613

Cotton Industry in the Leeward Islands. Development of Sericulture in Tunis.

Miscellaneous 614

Trade of Cape Colony in 1904. Suggested Establishment of a Cement Factory in Trinidad. Trade of the Leeward Islands. Tariff of Brest-Dakar Cable Charges. Direct Importation of Virginia Tobacco into Trieste. Trade of Servia. Amber Deposit in San Domingo. Regulations respecting Insurance Companies in Chile.

Statistical Tables... 618

Cotton Returns.
Corn Prices.
Imports of Agricultural Produce.

Government Publications 620

Board of Trade Returns and Labour Gazette. Note of Foreign and Colonial Office Reports, also of certain other Government Publications having a bearing upon trade issued during the week. List of Publications containing information on trade and industry. List of Foreign Office Reports, arranged geographically, also a list of Colonial Office Reports issued since the beginning of the year.

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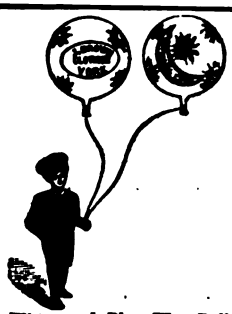

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THE

Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. XLVIII.] March 30, 1905. [No. 435.

The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The registered telegraphic address of the Branch is "Advantage, London."

A statement of the objects and work of the Commercial Intelligence Branch will be found on p. 625.

Attention is directed to the Sample Room, where there are at present on view, among other exhibits, samples of tobacco grown in Jamaica, and samples of cotton grown within the Empire, viz., eleven received from the British Cotton Growing Association, three from the West India Committee, and eleven from the Imperial Institute.

The following Special Trade Enquiry Offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.	Queensland.
Dominion of Canada.	Cape of Good Hope.

Statements of the objects and work of the Special Trade Enquiry Offices will be found on p. 626.

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

BRITISH INDIA.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS: INDIA OFFICE.

Ballast Wagons.

The Secretary of State for India in Council is prepared to receive tenders from such persons as may be willing to supply—

Ballast wagons.

The conditions of contract may be seen on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., or may be obtained on application to the Director-General of Stores, India Office, Whitehall, S.W. Tenders are to be delivered at that office by two p.m. on Tuesday, the 11th April, after which time no tender will be received.

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Openings for British Trade.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

Wrought Iron Material.

The Directors of the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway Company are prepared to receive, up to noon on Tuesday, the 4th April, tenders for the supply of—

Wrought iron material.

Tenders must be made on a form, copies of which, with specification, can be obtained at the offices of the Company, Gloucester House, Bishopsgate Street Without, London, E.C., on payment of 21*s.* each (which will not be returned).

The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

Railway Materials and Tools.

The East Indian Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply and delivery of—

1. Steel plates, angles, bars, &c.;
2. Files;
3. Picks, kodalies, phowrahs, and shovels;
4. Hammer handles and mallets;

as per specification to be seen at the Company's Offices, Nicholas Lane, London, E.C.

Tenders are to be sent to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Steel Plates, &c.," or as the case may be, not later than noon on Wednesday, the 5th April.

The Company reserve the right to divide the order, also to decline any tender without assigning a reason, and do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

Fees, which cannot under any circumstances be returned, are charged for the specifications, as under, viz., for Nos. 1 and 2, 21*s.* each, and for Nos. 3 and 4, 10*s.* 6*d.* each.

Railway Stores.

The Directors of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply of the following stores, namely:—Crank axles; wheels and axles; bearing springs; volute and spiral springs; brake rigging; bib cocks, &c.; stationery, &c.; lamp glasses, &c.; galvanised corrugated sheets.

Specifications and forms of tender may be obtained at the Company's Offices, 48, Copthall Avenue, E.C., on payment of the fee for the specification, which payment will not be returned.

Tenders must be delivered in sealed envelopes, addressed to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Crank Axles," or, as the case may be, not later than 11 a.m. on Thursday, the 6th April.

The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

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Openings for British Trade.

CANADA.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following trade enquiries have been received at the **Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—A firm manufacturing biscuits are prepared to appoint a Canadian resident agent.

The services of an influential firm in Canada are required to undertake the sale of oils, solidified lubricants, petroleum jellies, and similar goods.

A firm manufacturing high-speed air hardening tool steel, and machine tools of various kinds, are willing to appoint a Canadian resident agent.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

Apple Trade.

The following memorandum by the Department of Agriculture has been received at the Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

"*Canadian Apples.*—The Western Ontario apple growers have "formed a large number of Co-operative Associations, with the "object of handling the export trade in apples to the United "Kingdom market next season. Up to the present, this method "of marketing apples has only been employed in connection with "domestic trade, including shipments to Manitoba and the North "West. The success which has attended the efforts of these "older societies has induced a large number of associations to "organise themselves, and at a meeting of the representatives of "the various societies, held early in the month of March at "Toronto, it was decided to pool their products and sell in "common. This will mean a 50,000 barrel lot to be disposed of "practically by one seller. Under no circumstances will the fruit "be sent on consignment. These apples will be packed and "graded much above the average. For the information of buyers "it may be mentioned that very little travelling will be necessary, "as the apples will be gathered at one or two points."

TRANSVAAL.

Switchboards, &c.

The Municipal Council of Johannesburg are prepared to receive tenders for the supply and erection of—

Switchboards and accessories for their new direct and alternating current power station.

General conditions, specification and forms of tender may be seen on and after Friday, March 31st, at the offices of the Council's

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consulting engineers, Messrs. Mordey & Dawbarn, 82, Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W., and may be obtained from them on payment of five guineas, which will be returned on receipt of a *bonâ fide* tender. Further copies of the general conditions, specification and forms of tender may be obtained on payment of ten shillings, which will not be returned.

Tenders are to be addressed to Messrs. Mordey & Dawbarn, 82, Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W., and must reach them not later than noon on Thursday, April 27th, 1905.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender, and are not responsible for the cost of tendering.

SWEDEN.

Coal.

The supplement to "Post och Inrikes Tidningar" of the 21st March contains a notice calling for tenders for the supply to the Vanersborg Hospital of certain goods, including 3,000 tons of best South Yorkshire hard steam coal. Tenders must be sent in to the Administration of the hospital not later than mid-day on 15th April.

NETHERLANDS.

Competition for the Discovery of an Improved Method of Diamond Cutting.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from the Netherlands Minister in London (Baron Gericke) forwarding particulars of a competition instituted by the Government of the Netherlands for the discovery of a method of cutting diamonds which will obviate the present use of an alloy injurious to the health of those handling the stones.

The Minister of the Interior has appointed a committee of experts to consider the answers submitted, and to award the prize. The answers must be written in either the Dutch, French, English or German languages, and must be accompanied by samples or objects to enable the committee to form an opinion about the practical value of the invention, as also by a legibly written address of the competitor.

The answers, and the samples or objects pertaining thereto, must be sent carriage paid, and if sent from foreign countries duty paid, before January 1st, 1906, to Professor Dr. L. Aronstein, chairman of the committee, Chemical Laboratory of the Polytechnic School, Delft, Holland.

The prize to be awarded for a complete solution of the problem is six thousand florins. The committee are empowered to divide the prize among different competitors, or to partially award the prize in case of a partial solution of the problem, for instance, if it

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is applicable to one of the branches of the diamond industry. The committee are also empowered to prescribe certain conditions to be fulfilled by the competitor, before awarding the prize.

The full particulars may be examined at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

BELGIUM.

Supply of Fuel; Construction of Metallic Viaduct.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp copies of notices calling for tenders, as follows:—

1. Supply of 85 lots (5,200 metric tons each) of small coal, 20 lots (5,200 metric tons each) of briquettes, and one lot (300 metric tons) of screened coal to the Belgian State Railways. The adjudication will take place simultaneously at the Railway Stations at Charleroi and Liége on the 4th April, and tenders should be addressed to the Station-master at Charleroi-Sud, or at Liége Guillemins, from either of whom the special conditions of contract may be obtained. A copy of the conditions and form of tender may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

2. Construction of metallic viaduct at Mouscron station. The estimated cost of the work is 119,934 francs (about 4,797*l.*), a deposit of 8,400 francs (about 336*l.*) being required to qualify any tender. Conditions of contract (No. 45 of 1905) may be obtained from M. Isbecque, ingénieur en chef, directeur de service, Tournai, on payment of 1 franc 20 centimes per copy. Tenders will be opened at Tournai station on the 19th April.

Railway Plant.

The "Moniteur Belge" of 21st March, contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened at 11 a.m. on the 19th April, at the offices of the "Société Nationale des Chemins de Fer Vicinaux, 14, Rue de la Science, Brussels," for the construction of a branch line between Mouscron and Montaleux. The cost of the work is estimated at 39,540 fr. (about 1,581*l.*). A deposit of 4,000 fr. (about 160*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Tenders in registered envelopes inscribed to the general manager of the railway at the above address, must be posted not later than the 18th April. Specifications, price 1 fr., may be obtained from the same address.

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Openings for British Trade.

PORTUGAL.

Metallic Bridgework.

The "Diario do Governo" of 11th March contains a notice calling for tenders which will be opened at 1 p.m. on the 9th May at the Directorate-General of Public Works and Mines, Lisbon, for the construction of a bridge, with metallic platform, over the road from Mertola to Villa Real de Santo Antonio, in accordance with plans on view at the above-mentioned office. A deposit of 350 milreis (about 83*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Local representation is necessary.

The "Diario" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA.

Railway Material.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Lisbon (Mr. A. R. Peel), reporting that a contract was signed on the 10th March between the Portuguese Government and the Bank of Lisbon and the Azores for a loan of 2,000 contos of reis (400,000*l.*), the greater part of which is to be utilised for the construction of the Swaziland Railway.

Port Works.

In connection with the above, it appears from a Decree published in the "Diario do Governo" of 18th March that a portion of the loan is to be used for the purpose of port works at Lourenço Marques.

SPAIN.

Electric Lighting Installation.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 21st March contains a notice calling for tenders, which will be opened at noon on 10th April, before the Central Board of the Ministry of Marine, for the provision of an electric lighting installation on board the cruiser "Cataluña." A deposit of 9,500 pesetas (about 284*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

N.B.—It is notified from H.M. Embassy at Madrid that a foreigner, when entering into contracts for the performance of public works in Spain, must renounce by public act all rights to which he might be entitled by virtue of the law of his own country in so far as his contract is concerned, and accept any administrative decisions that may be issued respecting questions arising from that contract.

In entering into such contracts a local agent is a practical necessity.

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Openings for British Trade.

SPAIN—*continued.*

Electric Tramway Plant.

With reference to the notice on page 580 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 29th December, as to tenders for a concession for an electric tramway in Madrid on more favourable terms than those offered by the "Société Générale des Tramways de Madrid et d'Espagne," it is noted that the "Gaceta de Madrid" of 22nd March publishes an announcement to the effect that, no such tenders having been received, the concession has been granted to the "Société."

Railway Plant and Rolling Stock.

The "Gaceta" of 23rd March publishes a Decree authorising the Santander and Bilbao Railway Company to double the line between Bilbao and Las Arenas. The Company are under the obligation to make the following additions to their rolling stock:—5 locomotives, 10 trucks, 4 goods vans, and 20 passenger carriages.

Steam Roller.

The same issue of the "Gaceta" contains a Royal Order authorising the Commission of Public Works for the province of Guadalajara to expend 31,800 pesetas (about 950*l.*) on the purchase of a steam roller.

The "Gacetas" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

ITALY.

Water Power Plant.

The "Bollettino delle Finanze" (Rome) of 22nd March, notifies an application, made to the Italian Minister of Public Works, by Messrs. Lucio Rossi and Ermenegildo Perini for an appropriation of water from the Lys waterfall, district of Sillianes, for the production of power for industrial purposes and irrigation. The energy to be produced is fixed at 8,784 horse power during four months of the year, and 3,627 horse power during the remainder. The cost of the installation is estimated at 1,400,000 lire (about 56,000*l.*).

Water Power Plant.

The "Bollettino" of 23rd March states that the Prefect of Brescia has granted Signor Giacomo Leali, civil engineer, Pignone, an appropriation of 15 cubic centimetres of water per second from the Gratacaso waterfall, for the production of electric power for lighting and other industrial purposes.

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Openings for British Trade.

BULGARIA.

Salt.

A notification has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, from the Bulgarian Diplomatic Agency in London, to the effect that, in virtue of a recent Law, the Bulgarian Government have acquired the monopoly of importing into Bulgaria all the salt of whatever kind indispensable for the needs of the country. As the Bulgarian Government propose shortly to import considerable quantities of salt, they are anxious to bring this under the notice of any and all English banks, companies and private persons who may wish to make offers for supplying the article in question.

All such offers should contain full particulars as regards prices and other terms, and, accompanied with samples, should be addressed directly to the Minister of Finance, Sophia, Bulgaria.

SERVIA.

Patent Flooring.

A communication has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from the British Vice-Consul at Belgrade (Hon. W. G. Thesiger, D.S.O.), in which he states that in the new military hospitals, now in course of construction at Belgrade, the question of flooring for the wards and passages is under consideration.

Wood is held to be undesirable as not being sufficiently easily cleaned, and linoleum is considered as not lasting enough. Some sort of flooring is required which shall have the properties of being antiseptic, easily cleaned and very durable.

Communications from British manufacturers of any patent flooring which fulfils these conditions and is suitable for hospitals, should be addressed to the British Vice-Consul, Belgrade.

Railway Material.

In his report on the trade of Servia for the year 1903, recently issued by the Foreign Office, the British Vice-Consul at Belgrade (Hon. W. G. Thesiger, D.S.O.) remarks that, as regards openings for British trade, note may be taken of the intention of the Government, at some not very distant date, to increase the railways of the country by branch lines. It has not yet been decided who is to be entrusted with the work of constructing the new lines; there is, however, a party who are desirous that the work should be carried out by Servian engineers and contractors, in which case there would be a large demand for the necessary material, the orders for which would be placed abroad.

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Openings for British Trade.

SERVIA—*continued.*

Stationery, Paper, and Fancy Goods.

With regard to the general import trade of Servia, there are, says the Vice-Consul, several of the smaller branches of business to which British manufacturers might turn their attention with profit, and which are at present practically neglected. These are stationery and paper of all kinds, as well as the small fancy goods usually sold by stationers, such as inkstands, pocket books, paper knives, card cases, &c., which are sold to a considerable extent in Servia, but are, on the whole, of rather a common quality and marked by a decided want of taste.

Furniture.

The same might be said of furniture, which is rather of a cheap and over-ornamented style, and not distinguished by particularly good workmanship. The demand is not large, but something might be done in the way of comfortable armchairs, writing and tea tables and bookcases, at moderate prices.

China, Glassware, and Pottery.

Cheap china, glassware, and pottery has a considerable market in Belgrade, and an opening might, in the opinion of the Vice-Consul, be found for British goods in spite of the cost of carriage and the high tariff on such articles.

Haberdashery.

Mr. Thesiger points out, however, that the most favourable opportunity for British trade is in connection with haberdashery. British-made collars, cuffs, ties, hats and other similar articles would, he says, if better known, find a ready sale. The average qualities of such goods are usually a good deal below the prices at home, but cannot compare with them either in quality, colour or design.

Agricultural Implements and Machinery.

As regards agricultural implements and machinery, Mr. Thesiger advises manufacturers to take notice of the Co-operative Society for the promotion of Servian agriculture, which has its head quarters in Belgrade, and over 400 branch societies in the interior of the country. This Society collects information as to the requirements of the peasants, then imports what is wanted in the way of implements and machinery, and either sells or hires them out to the farmers. In order to encourage agriculture the Government allows this Society to import free of duty. In 1903 the orders of this Society amounted in value to 21,992*l.*, the chief items being draught animals, 9,241*l.*; breeding stock, 5,313*l.*; agricultural implements, 1,417*l.*; seeds, 481*l.*; forage, 4,671*l.*; sulphate of copper, 725*l.* (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,329.)

Steam Heating Apparatus.

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" (Brussels) of 22nd March, states that the adjudication will take place on the 10th April, at the Ministry of Public Works, Belgrade, of tenders for the installation of a steam heating apparatus.

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Openings for British Trade.

CHILE.

Electric Tramway Plant.

The "Diario Oficial" of Chile of 15th February publishes a Decree granting Messrs. Manuel and Horacio Vaedes Ortúzar a concession to construct and work, for a term of ten years, an electric tramway between Santiago and San Bernardo.

The "Diario" may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

PERU.

Railway Material.

With reference to the article published in the "Board of Trade Journal" for 23rd March, pp. 541-4, on the subject of railway development in Peru, the Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, copy and translation of an Agreement entered into between the Minister of Public Works and Mr. H. D. L. MacDougall, for the construction and working of the railway from Lima to Pisco. Materials for the construction and working of the line may be imported free of customs duty.

The translation referred to may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

CHINA.

Canning Factory Machinery.

In a recent report, the United States Consul at Hangchow writes:—

"There is to be an opening for modern canning factory machinery and appliances in China before long; indeed, it may almost be said that there is an opening at the present time. The new industrial school being established in Hangchow by the gentry of this province includes in its curriculum training in the canning of fruits and vegetables on a large scale.

"There are reasons why factories of the sort are likely to succeed. While there are not many fruits in China which can be canned to advantage there are one or two varieties which can be put up for some classes of trade for far less money here than in other countries. The fruit is cheap, and labour can be had at rates impossible anywhere else than in Asia.

"In this part of China it is probable that some vegetables could be handled by canning factories with godd returns, the low price of the vegetables and of labour offering advantages which would enable the projectors to enter markets now held by other nations. The Chinese themselves appreciate the possibilities in this direction, and the proposed school course in Hangchow is significant."

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Openings for British Trade.

EXHIBITIONS.

FRANCE.

Agricultural Exhibitions at Bordeaux, Lyons, and Rouen.

According to a recent report of the German Consul in Paris, Agricultural Exhibitions are to be held in Bordeaux (27th May to 4th June), Lyons (3rd to 11th June), and Rouen (7th to 25th June), at which foreign machines and implements might be shown with advantage. For the Bordeaux Exhibition, machines and implements for vine culture, wine preparation, and dairying, would be especially suitable; for Lyons and Rouen, harvesting and dairying machines, the introduction of which would not entail very great expense.

Whilst the Exhibitions are mainly limited to French products, foreign machines, implements, &c., are admitted, provided they are introduced by representatives dwelling in France.

For the exhibition of foreign goods, application should be made on special forms, obtainable at the Ministry of Agriculture, 78, Rue de Varenne, Paris, the latest dates for the receipt of such being 20th April for Bordeaux; 3rd May for Lyons, and 17th May, for Rouen.

Free carriage for all exhibits has been granted by the French railway authorities.

The report adds that exhibits of motor machinery and implements, which could be utilised for agricultural purposes without revolutionising existing conditions, should have a specially favourable reception, as French farmers are said to be much interested in them.

BELGIUM.

Liége Exhibition, 1905.

With reference to the notice on p. 585 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 29th December, 1904, and to previous notices, respecting the International Exhibition to be held this year at Liége, information has now been received from the Association of Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom to the effect that the negotiations for further extension of the British Section in the Machinery Hall have fallen through, owing to the exhibition authorities having no more space at their disposal. The list of machinery exhibitors is therefore closed, but in the Industrial Hall there still remain a few spaces which intending exhibitors can secure by applying immediately to the Hon. Commissioner General (in succession to Mr. T. Cope, who has resigned), Mr. Imre Kiralfy, 19, Buckingham Street, Strand, W.C. The exhibition will be opened in about a month from the present time.

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Openings for British Trade.

BELGIUM—*continued.*

International Congress of Chambers of Commerce, &c.

The International Congress of Chambers of Commerce and of Commercial and Industrial Associations will be held at Liége on 7th, 8th, and 9th September, 1905, immediately after the autumnal meeting of the Association of Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom.

International Congress on Agricultural Machinery.

Information has also been received, through the Foreign Office, that an International Congress on Agricultural Machinery will be held at Liége during the course of the Exhibition.

ITALY.

Milan Exhibition, 1906.

With reference to the notice on p. 489 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 15th September last and to previous notices relating to the exhibition to be held at Milan in 1906, a despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul at Milan (Mr. J. H. Towsey) forwarding a copy, in Italian, of the programme of the Agricultural Section.

International exhibits are invited for the section devoted to agricultural machinery and implements, and also for some classes of the animal shows.

Mr. Towsey adds that the programme is being translated into other languages, and that a copy of the English version will be forwarded later on.

The programme (in Italian) may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

BRITISH TRADE ABROAD.

Austrian Competition.—In his recent report to the Foreign Office, H.M. Consul at Trieste (Mr. H. L. Churchill) states that a new company is to be formed to be called the "Società Coloniale Austriaca," with head office at Trieste. The principal object of this company will be to trade direct with India and the British Colonies, and thus do away with the intermediary of British firms.

Trieste.—British traders are strongly advised by Mr. Churchill to have their catalogues, price lists, prospectuses, &c., printed in Italian, which is the language spoken in Trieste, and, in writing to the Consulate, they should always address their correspondence to "The British Consul," Trieste, Austria, and not to the Consul by name. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,328.)

Servia.—In his recent report to the Foreign Office, the British Vice-Consul at Belgrade (Hon. W. G. Thesiger, D.S.O.) writes:—

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British Trade Abroad.

"One of the difficulties which British firms must take into account in dealing with Servia is the question of language. English is very little understood here, and the majority of advertisements which come into the country are merely thrown away. For this reason illustrated catalogues and price lists are preferable, as they arouse more interest, and to a certain extent explain themselves. The commercial language of Servia is German, and this at once gives a great advantage to the United Kingdom's two principal rivals for Servian trade—Austria-Hungary and Germany. These two countries possess, in common with most other European nations, a further advantage in the form of the metric system and decimal coinage. . . .

"To the smaller business houses it (the 'mystery of English weights and measures' and coinage) is a difficulty which, I think, often sends to Continental manufacturers orders which might have been placed in the United Kingdom. It is true such orders are usually small ones, but in the present condition of Servian commerce it is just these small first orders which should not be neglected. The spending capacity of the population is gradually increasing, and with the abolition of the distinctive national costume and the levelling up of Servian ways of living to the Continental standard the demand for European manufactures must increase also. . . . .

"To increase British trade here to any large extent it would seem necessary that there should be more direct communication between British manufacturers and business houses and Belgrade merchants. In the smaller lines of business a large proportion of orders appear to be obtained only through agents, usually Budapest or Vienna tradesmen, whose interest in promoting British trade is naturally of a secondary importance, and it frequently happens in the case of difficulties which are referred to the Consulate that a very great divergence is noticeable between the interests of the agent and of the house he represents.

"When one takes into consideration the disadvantages under which British advertisements suffer, the only way to remedy this is, I think, to make more use of commercial travellers. Although one naturally hesitates in criticising the business methods of those to whom trade has been a life-long experience, I believe, in this respect, more advantage might be taken of the opportunities which Servia offers. Commercial travellers in Belgrade are few and far between, though probably more come than are heard of at the Vice-Consulate. This is, I think, also to be regretted, as even when no assistance is required much may be learnt from men who are experts in their own line of business, both as to the ways in which Consular information can be of most use to British trade and as to general trade details which are otherwise difficult to obtain. Personally I shall always be very much obliged if all who are visiting Belgrade on business would, when they can spare the time, call at the Vice-Consulate whether they require official assistance or not." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,329.)

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TRADE OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND BRITISH POSSESSIONS.

The following summary table has been prepared in the Board of Trade, showing the total imports and exports of merchandise of the principal countries for which the particulars can be given up to December, 1904, inclusive, and referring in all cases to the same period, viz., the twelve months ended December. The corresponding figures for 1903 and 1902 are added for comparison:—

—	Imports (*see* NOTE that follows tables). Twelve Months ended December.			Exports (Domestic) (*see* NOTE that follows tables). Twelve Months ended December.		
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Germany	281,550,000	300,134,000	314,549,000	233,889,000	250,732,000	258,625,000
Belgium*	92,217,000	101,689,000	104,758,000	74,347,000	79,875,000	82,211,000
France...	175,761,000	192,048,000	181,458,000	170,087,000	170,090,000	179,020,000
Switzerland	43,518,000	46,366,000	48,406,000	34,725,000	35,276,000	35,334,000
Spain*...	31,927,000	33,971,000	33,355,000	30,366,000	33,437,000	33,913,000
Italy	71,030,000	74,478,000	74,325,000	58,897,000	60,697,000	64,608,000
Austria-Hungary ...	71,681,000	78,213,000	85,211,000	79,733,000	88,741,000	86,220,000
Egypt	15,290,000	17,189,000	21,096,000	18,517,000	20,048,000	21,353,000
United States... ...	201,941,000	207,395,000	215,814,000	277,764,000	303,677,000	297,031,000
Japan	27,509,000	32,102,000	37,588,000	25,922,000	28,994,000	38,011,000
British India... ...	52,547,000	54,646,000	63,652,000	81,662,000	95,392,000	105,007,000
United Kingdom ...	462,576,000	473,027,000	481,040,000	283,424,000	290,800,000	300,818,000

* Value of *principal* articles only.

A comparison of the total figures for the month ended 31st January is possible for four countries, as follows, viz.:—

—	Imports (*see* NOTE). Month ended January.			Exports (Domestic) (*see* NOTE). Month ended January.		
	1903.	1904.	1905.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Belgium*	7,104,000	9,386,000	8,148,000	5,198,000	5,264,000	5,935,000
France...	14,913,000	15,202,000	15,137,000	13,068,000	12,112,000	12,164,000
United States ...	17,745,000	17,206,000	20,492,000	27,415,000	29,175,000	25,304,000
United Kingdom ...	40,159,000	40,421,000	41,653,000	24,904,000	24,083,000	24,998,000

* Value of *principal* articles only.

NOTE.—In the case of Germany, Belgium, France, Switzerland, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Egypt, Japan, *and United Kingdom*, the import figures given in the above summaries represent imports for home consumption only, *i.e.*, excluding re-exports. In all cases the export figures are intended to represent exports of domestic produce. In most cases, however, they include a certain amount of "nationalised" goods, *i.e.*, goods originally imported for consumption, and which, if dutiable, have been charged with duty, but which are subsequently re-exported.

The latest figures available as regards other countries from which returns are received by the Board of Trade, are as follow:—

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Trade of Foreign Countries and British Possessions.

—	Imports.			Exports (Domestic).		
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Russia* (10 months)...	45,899,000	52,266,000	51,702,000	72,483,000	84,009,000	80,659,000
Portugal (7 months)...	7,175,000	7,999,000	8,378,000	3,648,000	3,836,000	4,068,000
Mexico+ (10 months)..	12,132,000	12,458,000	13,110,000	12,509,000	14,665,000	14,461,000
Canada (11 months)...	39,116,000	47,062,000	47,220,000	38,328,000	40,519,000	35,321,000

* European and Black Sea Frontiers.

+ The values of the imports are stated in gold, and the dollar has been converted into English currency at the rate of 4*s*. The values of the exports are stated in silver, and the dollar has been converted into English currency for the years ended 30th June, 1902, 1903, 1904, at 1*s*. 9½*d*., 1*s*. 8*d*., and 1*s*. 10*d*. respectively; 1*s*. 11*d*. has been taken for the first four months (July to October) of the year 1904-5. The figures for Mexico include bullion and specie.

For detailed particulars regarding the trade of the several countries, reference should be made to the "Accounts relating to the Trade and Commerce of certain Foreign Countries and British Possessions," including figures received up to 28th February, published by Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, E.C.

QUICKSILVER PRODUCTION OF THE WORLD.

The following table, showing approximately the quicksilver production of the world during the past two years, is extracted from the "Engineering and Mining Journal" (New York) :—

—	1903.	1904.
	Metric tons.	Metric tons.
United States	1,288	1,480
Austria—Idria Mines	520	536
Spain—Almaden	914	1,020
Italy	314	355
Total	3,036	3,391

A metric ton is, approximately, 29·6 flasks. The total for 1904 was, therefore, about 100,374 flasks. The only producing countries of any importance not included above, adds the "Journal," are Russia and Mexico, figures for which have not been received. In 1903 Mexico reported 190 and Russia 362 metric tons. Assuming that their output was about the same in 1904, and making an allowance for the smaller producers, such as Japan and Germany, a total for the year of 3,980 metric tons, or 134,460 flasks of quicksilver, would be arrived at.

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TRADE OF THE ORANGE RIVER COLONY.

Six Months ended 31st December, 1904.

Referring to the notice on p. 69 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 12th January last, relating to the trade of the Orange River Colony, the Board of Trade have received copy of a return drawn up by the Collector of Customs at Bloemfontein, showing the value of the goods imported into and exported from the Colony during the six months ended the 31st December, 1904.

The following table shows the value of the principal articles imported during the period mentioned, as compared with the corresponding period of 1903:—

Articles.	Six Months ended 31st December, 1903.	Six Months ended 31st December, 1904.
	£	£
*Machinery, agricultural implements, &c.	254,000	401,000
South African produce	204,000	245,000
Articles of food and drink	126,000	147,000
Haberdashery, millinery, hosiery, &c.	181,000	141,000
Wood, raw and manufactured (*includes furniture*) ...	118,000	87,000
Corn and grain (*includes rice*)	191,000	81,000
Hardware, brass and copperware, &c.	78,000	73,000
Leather manufactures (*includes boots and shoes, saddlery and harness, &c.*)	67,000	56,000
Apparel and slops (*includes hats*)	74,000	54,000
Cotton manufactures	59,000	49,000
Iron, galvanised and corrugated	26,000	20,000
Clocks, watches, jewellery, and plated ware	17,000	20,000
Carriages and other kinds of vehicles	21,000	18,000
Provisions, oilman's stores, &c.	17,000	18,000
Blankets and sheets or rugs, cotton or woollen, &c. ...	23,000	17,000
Drugs and chemicals (*includes medicinal preparations*)	21,000	17,000
Oils and paints, &c....	15,000	17,000
Stationery and fancy goods	15,000	16,000
Soap and candles	11,000	12,000
Fodder	13,000	11,000
Tobacco of all kinds	12,000	10,000
Bicycles, tricycles, and accessories	15,000	9,000
Cocoa, chocolate, coffee and milk, and confectionery ...	10,000	9,000
Earthenware, china and glass	9,000	8,000
Woollen manufactures (*not blankets or rugs*)	11,000	7,000
All other articles	113,000	110,000
Total imports ... ... £	1,701,000	1,653,000

* Includes goods manufactured within the Customs Union.

The total value of the goods exported from the Orange River Colony during the six months ended 31st December, 1904, was 937,517*l.*, as compared with 590,283*l.* during the corresponding period of 1903.

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REPORT OF INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION IN ORANGE RIVER COLONY.

The following particulars of the report of the Commission to enquire into the possibility of promoting new minor industries in the Orange River Colony, the appointment of which was notified on p. 524 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 17th March, 1904, are taken from a copy of the report received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from the Collector of Customs at Bloemfontein (Mr. J. H. Meiring) who acted as Chairman of the Commission:—

The report deals with the possibilities of the Orange River Colony in regard to the manufacture of woollen goods, leather, ink, drugs, cement, pottery, jam, chutney, sweets, &c. Prospects in most of these directions are said to be favourable, and it is recommended that the Government give financial assistance in the establishment of some of the industries mentioned. It is recommended, for instance, that the Government grant a bonus for the manufacture of blankets. It is recognised, however, that for a woollen industry to succeed the machinery must be of the most up-to-date kind and the production on a considerable scale. The Commission also recommend that the Government should offer a bonus to any approved manufacturer establishing a tannery in the colony and producing in the year a total of not less than 5,000 dressed skins and hides, which must include not less than 1,500 large hides, such bonus to be offered for five years and to be at the rate of 5s. per hide and 1s. per skin. Tannery prospects are considered good. One practical tanner told the Commission that leather could be manufactured as well in the Orange River Colony as in England, and at a cost certainly not higher. Another tanner considered that rough leathers for the manufacture of "veldt schoen" and harness would be the more profitable to tan in the colony. Local witnesses spoke highly of the value of the "elands-boontje," a root which grows freely on the veldt, as a tanning material equal to oak bark, and obtainable in practically unlimited quantities. The Commission are of opinion that measures should be taken to foster the cement industry, and suggest that any approved factory producing annually not less than 20,000 casks of cement of 400 lbs. each should be granted a bonus of 1,000*l.* a year for three years.

The Commission consider that there is ample scope for the development of the jam, canned fruit, pickles and sweet industry, provided the Government afford assistance in the initial stages. A manufacturer of these commodities, it is recognised, would be seriously handicapped by the high cost of labour, sugar, tin and packing material, and it is recommended, therefore, that a bonus of 200*l.* a year for a sale of 50,000 lbs., and of 1*d.* a lb. for any quantity sold in excess of 50,000 lbs., should be given to approved manufacturers of any or all of these articles, the bonus to be granted for five years. It is also recommended that plant and

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necessaries for use in jam factories, &c., should be carried over the Central South African Railways at South African produce rates.

In regard to beet sugar, tobacco and pottery, it is recognised that preliminary work is necessary before capital can be attracted. It must be shown, it is said, that sufficient beet of the required sugar standard can be grown; the quantity of tobacco leaf must be increased and the quality improved; and experiments in potteryware must be undertaken.

TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Importation of Sugar from Spain prohibited.

An Order in Council has been published, dated 27th March, 1905, providing that whereas it appears from a Report of the Permanent Sugar Commission that a bounty on the production or export of sugars is granted in Spain, all sugar from Spain (not including molasses and sugar-sweetened products) shall (except in transit) be prohibited to be imported into the United Kingdom from and after the 3rd April next.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

Customs Decisions.

A copy of a Supplement (No. 40) to the Customs Tariff Guide, dated 25th January, 1905, has been received, giving Customs decisions relating to the rates of duty imposed on various articles imported into the Australian Commonwealth.

The following are the principal decisions given:—

Articles, and how classed.	Rates of Duty.
*Almanacs and calendars (advertising) with a strip of metal or wood at top and bottom, or not—	
As paper, advertising matter, or as manufactured stationery	3*d.* per lb. on whole weight, or 25 % *ad val.*, whichever higher.
Electrical machine used for the same purpose as a Roentgen Ray apparatus, used only by physicians—	
As instruments, &c., surgical	Free
Jars, tobacco, silver or gold—	
As jewellery	25 % *ad val.*
Knife, butter, with silver handle and plated blade—	
As metals—plated ware	20 % "
*Muslins, Madras, tasselled—	
As piece-goods—cotton and linen	5 % "
Polish, knife, composed entirely of emery powder, in bulk or otherwise—	
As "other articles"	Free
Tea cloths, in lengths marked for cutting off—	
As apparel, &c., towels, cotton or linen	15 % *ad val.*
Yeast, granular—	
As foaming powders and liquids	20 % "

* Revised decision.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—*continued.*

Importation of Essence of Lager Beer Prohibited.

A copy of the "Commonwealth of Australia Gazette" for 18th February last has been received, containing a Proclamation which was issued by the Governor-General of Australia on 9th February, and which provides for the prohibition of the importation of "Essence of Lager Beer" into the Commonwealth.

NEW ZEALAND.

Prohibition of the Manufacture of Certain Articles in Bond.

The "New Zealand Gazette" of 12th January contains a copy of a Commissioner's Order (No. 762) prohibiting under section 9 of the "Customs and Excise Act, 1895," the manufacture of the undermentioned spirits and tinctures in bond in the Colony:—

As articles made under the heading of "medicinal spirits"—

Spirit of lavender, spirit of lemon, spirit of myrcia, spirit of orange, compound spirit of orange, compound spirit of juniper.

As articles made under the heading of tinctures—

Tincture of lemon, tincture of sweet orange peel.

NATAL.

Amended Regulations under Adulteration of Food Act, 1901.

With reference to the notice which appeared on p. 174 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 26th January last relating to the regulations laid down by Proclamation No. 137 of 1904, under the Natal Adulteration of Food Act of 1901, the Board of Trade have now received a copy of a further Proclamation (No. 26 of 1905) issued by the Governor of Natal on 17th February, 1905, amending the above-mentioned regulations as follows:—

1. The regulations contained in my aforesaid Proclamation in reference to the labelling, marking, and sale of condensed milk, margarine, cheese or filled cheese, cream and cream cheese, shall not be brought into force until the 1st May, 1905, in regard to articles on which duty shall have been paid to the Customs before the 1st February, 1905.

2. The aforesaid regulations shall not apply to goods imported for sale and use in the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, the Transvaal Colony, the Orange River Colony, and Basutoland.

3. On and after the 1st February, 1905, all importations of condensed milk, margarine, cheese or filled cheese, cream and cream cheese, not marked or labelled in compliance with the aforeeaid regulations, shall be warehoused in a Customs warehouse for transit to the adjoining Colonies, or for exportation only, subject to the regulations respecting transit and exportation, and shall not be cleared or removed from bond for any other purpose.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

BRITISH GUIANA.

New Customs Tariff.

The Board of Trade have received, from the Government Secretary of British Guiana, a copy of the "Customs Duties Ordinance, 1905" (No. 4 of 1905), which was assented to by the Governor of the Colony on 2nd March, 1905.

The present Ordinance, which is to remain in force until 31st March, 1906, unless otherwise enacted by the Combined Court of the Colony, repeals the Customs Duties Ordinance No. 1 of 1904, but it, at the same time, re-imposes, with some few minor alterations, certain duties previously in force in British Guiana.

The following are the principal alterations effected in the Customs Tariff by the new Ordinance:—

Articles.	Import duties.	
	Old rates.	New rates.
Calcium carbide—		
In tins or packages weighing not more than 1 lb. Per lb.	2 cents	3 cents*
In large packages, when imported with the permission of the Comptroller of Customs Per lb.	10 „	
Pitch and Tar—		
The rate of duty—viz.:—50 cts. per barrel—is unaltered, but the present Ordinance defines the barrel not to exceed 200 lbs. in the case of "pitch" and 30 gallons in that of "tar."		
Tobacco in leaf—		
If in packages containing not less than *800* lbs.—		
Containing 10 lbs. or more of moisture in every 100 lbs. weight thereof... ... ...Per lb.	50 „	—
Containing less than 10 lbs. of moisture in every 100 lbs. weight thereof ... ...Per lb.	60 „	—
If in packages containing less than *800* lbs.—		
Containing 10 lbs. or more of moisture in every 100 lbs. weight thereof... ... ...Per lb.	60 „	—
Containing less than 10 lbs. of moisture in every 100 lbs. weight thereof ... ...Per lb.	80 „	—
Tobacco in leaf—		
If in packages containing not less than *400* lbs.—		
Losing 35 lbs. in every 100 lbs. weight thereof when dried at a temperature of 212° F. Per lb.	—	50 cents
Losing less than 35 lbs. in every 100 lbs. weight thereof when dried at the temperature aforesaid ... ...Per lb.	—	50 „
And *additional* for every 2 lbs. less lost when so dried ... ...Per lb.	—	3 „
If in packages containg less than *400* lbs.		
Losing 35 lbs. in every 100 lbs. weight when dried at a temperature of 212° F. ...Per lb.	—	60 „
Losing less than 35 lbs. in every 100 lbs. weight thereof when dried at the temperature aforesaid ... ...Per lb.	—	60 „
And *additional* for every 2 lbs. less lost when so dried... ... ...Per lb.	—	3 „
Furniture and ornaments proved to the satisfaction of the Comptroller of Customs to be imported for any place of worship of the Christian religion in the Colony.	15 % *ad val.*	Free

* If imported in larger quantities than 1 lb., must be in "water-tight metal packages."

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

PROTECTORATE OF SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

Prohibition of the Exportation of Cotton Seed.

A copy of the "Customs Proclamation, 1905" (No. 2 of 1905), dated 13th February last, has been received, which prohibits, as from 1st March, 1905, the exportation of "cotton seed" from the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria.

BARBADOS.

Facilities granted for importation of Rifles, &c., in certain cases.

The Board of Trade have received, from the Colonial Secretary at Barbados, a copy of an Act (No. 6 of 1905), which was assented to by the Governor on 28th February last, and which provides for the free importation of the following articles into the Colony, viz.:—

"All rifles, parts of rifles, rifle accessories, and all rifle ammunition specially imported exclusively for the objects and purpose of the Barbados Rifle Association, by or for the use of any member thereof, on the certificate to that effect of the Secretary for the time being of such Association."

RUSSIA.

Tea in Transit to Kerki *viâ* Batoum, &c.

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 213 of the "Journal" for the 3rd November last, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that the Russian Minister of Finance has authorised the transportation of black and green teas by transit route, *viâ* Batoum, Baku and Krasnovodsk to the Kerki Custom House, on the same conditions as those applying to green teas conveyed *viâ* Novorossisk, Petrovsk, and Krasnovodsk.

Tariff Classifications.

The Board are also in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that the Russian Customs Department have recently notified the following Decisions affecting the application of the Customs Tariff.

Money boxes are to be dutiable under No. 215 of the Tariff as toys.

Articles of copper and its alloys in relief, not by way of ornament, but necessitated by the character or purpose of the articles (*e.g.* letters and designs for book-binding work, board-presses, stamps, &c.), are to pay duty under No. 149 (1) of the Tariff at the rate of 6 rbls. 48 cop. per poud (4¼*d.* per lb.).

Machine belting.—Only such belting is to be regarded as forming part of machinery (agricultural or other), as serves as conductor of motion for the several parts which enter directly into the composition of the mechanism. Such belting must have the ends sewn together and fit the axles for which it is intended, or else be

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

furnished with some device for securing the ends together at a proper distance from one axle to another.

Horn sawn into the form of handles is to be dutiable under No. 215 (2) of the Tariff, at the rate of 60 cop. per funt (1*s.* 7*d.* per lb.).

"*Haertemehle*," a composition of horn filings, common salt, and sal ammoniac, is to be dutiable under No. 112 of the Tariff at the rate of 2 rbls. 25 cop. per poud gross weight (1½*d.* per lb.).

Ladies' gold watches in the form of medallions with embellishments of precious stones, are to be dutiable under No. 171 (2) of the Tariff at the rate of 4 rbls. 50 cop. (9*s.* 6*d.*) each.

RUSSIA—FINLAND.

Tariff Alterations.

The Board of Trade have received information, through the Foreign Office, to the effect that the Imperial Finnish Senate has decreed the following alterations in the Finnish Customs Tariff:—

The duty on *salted herrings and sprats* has been raised from 2 to 5 Finnish marks per 100 kilogs. (from 9¾*d.* to 2*s.* 0½*d.* per cwt.).

Gun and revolver cartridges, consisting of cases and powder, but without bullet or shot, are to be dutiable at the rate of 70 Finnish marks per 100 kilogs. (3*d.* per lb.).

From the 1st January, 1906, *telegraph posts, sleepers, laths, pit-props, pulp wood, &c.*, exported from Finland, are to pay an export duty of 45 pennis per cubic metre (3¼*d.* per cubic yard).

NETHERLANDS.

Import Duty on Certain Goods containing Sugar.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a translation of a Dutch Royal Decree, dated 3rd March, 1905, fixing at the under-mentioned rates the import duties on honey-sweetening, biscuit-honey, caramel butter, caramel paste, Clarnico paste, Nucoa paste, Nucoa butter, and other goods of the same kind containing sugar, which are used as accessories in the confectionery trade:—

	Duty per 100 kilogs. Florins.		English equivalent. Per cwt. s.	d.
When the amount of sugar contained therein—				
Does not exceed 20 per cent. ...	5.50	...	4	8
Exceeds 20 per cent., but does not exceed 50 per cent. ...	13.50	...	11	5¼
Exceeds 50 per cent.	25.00	...	21	2

The importer of these articles is required to state in his declaration to which of the above-mentioned classes the imported goods belong.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ITALY.

Forthcoming "General" Tariff Alterations.

The Italian "Gazzetta Ufficiale" for the 9th inst. contains the text of a Royal Decree, dated 2nd March, introducing the undermentioned reductions in the "General" Customs Tariff of Italy. The new duties are to come into force on the 1st July next, and to terminate at the same time as the recently concluded Commercial Treaty between Italy and Switzerland. It will be observed that these reduced "general" duties are in several cases lower than the corresponding "conventional" duties as fixed by that Treaty ‖ :—

(NOTE.—Additions to the text of the Tariff are indicated by *italic* type.)

Tariff No.	Articles.	Rates of Duty under the "General" Tariff. At present.	Rates of Duty under the "General" Tariff. From 1st July, 1905.
		Per 100 kilogs Lire cts.	Per 100 kilogs Lire cts.
13	Note added.—*Cane molasses, for use in the manufacture of coffee substitutes, is admitted free of duty, if imported in conformity with regulations to be drawn up by the Minister of Finance.*		
19	Cocoa—		
(*a*)	In the bean...	100 00	80 00
105	Cotton yarn, single—		
(*a*)	Unbleached, measuring per half kilog.—		
	(2) More than 10,000 up to 20,000 metres	24 00	18 00
	(4) More than 30,000 up to 40,000 metres	36 00	30 00*
112	Cotton tissues, unbleached, plain—		
(*a*)	Weighing 13 kilogs. or more per 100 sq. metres, and having in a square of 5 mm., in warp and weft—		
	(1) 27 elementary threads or less ...	62 00	60 00
	(2) More than 27 and up to 38 elementary threads	74 00	70 00
(*b* i.)	Weighing 11 kilogs. or more, but less than 13 kilogs. per 100 square metres, and having in a square of 5 mm., in warp and weft—		
	(1) 27 elementary threads or less ..	84 00	60 00†
	(2) More than 27 up to 38 elementary threads	100 00	70 00‡
	(3) More than 38 elementary threads	100 00	90 00

* The "conventional" duty on this yarn fixed by the new Treaty with Switzerland is 83 lire per 100 kilogs.

† "Conventional" rate established for tissues of this class by new Treaty with Switzerland—67 lire per 100 kilogs.

‡ "Conventional" rate established for tissues of this class by new Treaty with Switzerland—78 lire per 100 kilogs.

‖ A statement showing the principal alterations introduced into the Italian Tariff by this Treaty has been published in recent issues of the "Board of Trade Journal."

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ITALY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Rates of Duty under the "General" Tariff. At present.	Rates of Duty under the "General" Tariff. From 1st July, 1905.
112 (*b* ii.)	Cotton tissues, unbleached, plain—*contd.*—	Per 100 kilogs Lire cts.	Per 100 kilogs Lire cts.
	Weighing 7 kilogs. or more, but less than 11 kilogs. per 100 square metres, and having in a square of 5 mm., in warp and weft—		
	(1) 27 elementary threads or less...	84 00	65 00*
	(2) More than 27 up to 38 elementary threads	100 00	75 00†
	(3) More than 38 elementary threads	100 00	90 00
	The Minister of Finance is empowered to concede to embroiderers the duty-free importation of an annually determined quantity of unbleached plain cotton tissues, to be embroidered (cambric, nanzook, muslin), and to cotton tissue printers the annual importation at the rate of 15 lire per 100 kilogs., of a determined quantity of unbleached plain cotton tissues weighing 7 kilogs. or more, but less than 12 kilogs. per 100 square metres, and having not more than 38 elementary threads in warp and weft in a square of 5 mm., to be printed as handkerchiefs or fichus.		
	The regulations and conditions governing the importation of such tissues under this special régime, will be drawn up by the Minister of Finance.		
163	Lace and tulles (including crapes and blondes) of silk, or mixed with silk in a proportion of not less than 12 per cent.—		
(*a*)	Plain—	Per kilog.	Per kilog.
	(1) Tulles in the piece...	15 00	10 00
	(2) Other		15 00
		Per 100 *kilogs*	*Per* 100 *kilogs*
210	Scrap, scales, and filings of cast or wrought-iron or steel	1 00	1 00 less the export duty paid in the country of origin.
213*c*	Note added—		
	Sheets and plates of iron or steel ½ mm. or less in thickness, destined for the manufacture of dynamo-electric machines, or of electric transformers, are admitted duty free in accordance with regulations to be drawn up by the Minister of Finance.		

* "Conventional" rate established for tissues of this class by new Treaty with Switzerland—67 lire per 100 kilogs.

† "Conventional" rate established for tissues of this class by new Treaty with Switzerland—78 lire per 100 kilogs.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ITALY—JAPAN.

Further Extension of Reciprocal Most-Favoured-Nation Treatment.

The "Bollettino di Legislazione e Statistica Doganale e Commerciale" for December last contains the text of Diplomatic Notes exchanged between the Italian and Japanese Governments, extending the reciprocal accord of most-favoured-nation treatment in regard to imports until the 31st December, 1905.

TURKEY.

New Sanitary Regulations respecting the Importation of Hides and Skins.

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 505 of the "Journal" for the 10th December, 1903, relative to the sanitary regulations governing the importation of hides and skins at Turkish ports, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy of a revised set of regulations which have recently been issued by the Sanitary Administration of the Ottoman Empire.

Fresh hides or skins, arriving in a good state of preservation, are henceforth to be admitted, for introduction into a tannery, even when coming from a country infected with epidemics of cholera, plague, or yellow fever.

Prepared hides or skins, coming from countries where cattle diseases (*épizooties*) prevail, may henceforth be admitted not only at a lazaret but also at a port where there exists a Sanitary Medical Officer and a tannery. The importation of hides or skins, coming from a country where anthrax is prevalent, is prohibited.

A copy of these new regulations (in French) may be seen on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall-street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Customs Decisions.

The following is a list of some decisions affecting the application of the United States Customs Tariff which have recently been issued by the Treasury Department at Washington:—

Onions—weight per bushel.—The duty of 40 cents per bushel, imposed upon onions by paragraph 249 of the Tariff, is to be assessed upon the basis of 57 pounds to the bushel.

Reciprocity Agreement.—Paintings.—To be entitled to the reduced rate of duty provided for in the Reciprocity Agreement between the United States and France, an oil painting must have

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

been painted in and imported from France. But it is not necessary that such painting should have been painted by a French artist.

Figs, whole, preserved in sugar, molasses, spirits, or in their own juices, are dutiable under paragraph 263 of the Tariff, at the rate of 1 cent per lb. and 35 per cent. *ad valorem*, with an additional duty on any alcohol contained in excess of 10 per cent.; and not under paragraph 264 as "figs," which in commercial significance means *dried* figs.

Borax, in which there has been mechanically mixed sufficient carbonate of soda to reduce the percentage of anhydrous boracic acid to less than 36 per cent, is dutiable at the rate of 5 cents per lb., under the provision in paragraph 11 of the Tariff for borax, and not under the provision in the same paragraph for borate of soda containing not more than 36 per cent. of anhydrous boracic acid.

Seizure and fine for fraudulent entry.—Where goods are seized for fraudulent or false entry under section 9 of the Customs Administrative Act of 10th June, 1890, and released upon the payment of a fine equal to the amount of the duty, the importers are not thereby relieved from the payment of the duty.

Re-importation of American goods previously exported.—Paragraph 483 of the Tariff, providing for the free entry of American goods previously exported, applies only when the article imported is the identical article exported. Thus, American barley malted abroad cannot be imported free of duty.

Flitters, produced by reducing thin sheets of composition metal by mechanical means to a very fine state, and employed to sprinkle over surfaces on which it is desired to produce a glittering effect, is not free of duty under paragraph 533 of the Tariff as composition metal, but is dutiable under paragraph 193 as an unenumerated metal manufacture. [This reverses the decision published at p. 267 of the "Journal" for 12th May, 1904, but upholds the decision published at p. 85 of the issue for the 11th July, 1901.]

Pineapples, canned, containing an amount of sugar insufficient to act as a preservative and serving only as a flavouring, are dutiable at the rate of 25 per cent. *ad valorem*, under paragraph 263 of the Tariff, as "pineapples preserved in their own juice"; and not at the higher rate provided in the same paragraph for "fruits preserved in sugar." [This modifies a decision published at pp. 214-5 of the "Journal" for the 3rd November, 1904.]

Also the following—

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

Articles.	Paragraph of the Tariff under which dutiable.	Rate of Duty.
		Dols. Cts.
Hides of the *wild* buffalo; as hides not provided for	664	Free.
**Metal beads, temporarily strung;* dutiable as manufactures of metal, not specially provided for	193	45 % *ad val.*
Tennis gut, a manufactured article used to make strings for tennis rackets; dutiable as catgut unmanufactured	517	Free.
Moulders wooden patterns, used to form the mould in the sand into which molten metal is poured to produce castings for machinery; dutiable as manufactures of wood not specially provided for	208	35 % *ad val.*
Ostrich and condor feathers, crude, and not dressed, coloured, or otherwise advanced or manufactured in any manner; dutiable as feathers and downs...	425	15 % "
Shell cameos made of paste; dutiable as imitations of precious stones	435	20 % "
Split pearls, also *pearls pierced and strung merely for convenience in transportation*; dutiable by similitude as "pearls in their natural state" ...	436	10 % "

* Revised decision.

Drawback on Flour made wholly from Imported Wheat.

A recent Circular of the United States Treasury Department lays down the regulations under which flour manufactured *wholly* from imported wheat will be entitled to drawback on exportation in respect of the duty paid on the wheat used. The regulations are similar to those in force for flour made from mixed American and imported wheat. (*See* the "Journal" for the 16th March, p. 511.)

NICARAGUA.

Increase of Import Duties on Tobacco.

The Board of Trade have received from H.M. Consul-General at Managua a translation of a Nicaraguan Presidential Decree, increasing the import duties on raw and manufactured tobacco to four and eight dollars per kilog., respectively.

On the Atlantic coast of the Republic these amounts are payable in silver, and, at the Custom Houses in the rest of the country, in gold or national paper money, in accordance with the Law of the 14th May, 1904.*

This Decree was to come into force on the 12th February last.

* *See* "Board of Trade Journal" for the 24th November, 1904, and the 12th January, 1905.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

JAPAN.

Forthcoming Increase of Import Duties (*continued from p. 554 of last week's "Journal"*).

Tariff No.	Articles.	Tariff Rates.	Increase under Law of 28th December, 1904.
		Yens.	
299	Sugar, up to No. 14, inclusive, Dutch standard in colour	100 kins 0·271	25 % *ad val.**
300	Sugar, refined—		
	From No. 15 to No. 20, inclusive, Dutch standard in colour	„ 0·748	No surtax*
	Above No. 20, Dutch standard in colour	„ 0·827	
301	Sugar, rock candy	„ 2·449	
302	Molasses	„ 0·131	20 % *ad val.**
303	Syrup	*ad val.* 10 %	20 „ *
305	Cotton thread	„ 15 „	10 „
306	Bookbinders' cloth	yard 0·026	10 „
339	Woollen felt	„ 0·061	15 „
344	Silk threads, not otherwise provided for ...	*ad val.* 20 %	10 „
345	„ crape, Chinese	yard 0·277	10 „
346	„ pongee, Chinese (Kenchu)	„ 0·058	10 „
347	„ satins, Chinese	„ 0·432	10 „
348	„ „ figured Chinese	„ 0·285	10 „
350	„ tissues, and silk and cotton tissues, embroidered	*ad val.* 25 %	10 „
351	All other silk tissues, pure or mixed with other materials, the silk, however, predominating in weight	„ 20 „	10 „
353	Flax or linen thread	kin 0·202	10 „
360	Carpets and carpetings, felt	yard 0·073	15 „
365	Curtains—		
	Of silk, wholly or in part	*ad val.* 25 %	15 „
	All other	„ 20 „	10 „
366	Elastic boot webbing—		
	Of silk in part	yard 0·855	15 „
	All other	„ 0·470	10 „
367	Elastic braids and cords	*ad val.* 15 %	10 „
368	Handkerchiefs—		
	Of cotton, single	yard 0·025	15 „
	Of linen, or of linen and cotton, single	*ad val.* 15 %	15 „
	Of silk, or of lace...	„ 25 „	20 „
369	Mosquito nets of all kinds	„ 20 „	15 „
370	Leather cloth, for furniture	yard 0·056	15 „
371	Oil cloths, and linoleum cloths for floors ...	„ 0·119	15 „
372	Table cloths or covers—		
	Of silk, wholly or in part	*ad val.* 25 %	20 „
	All other	„ 20 „	15 „
373	Towels of all kinds, single or in the piece...	„ 15 „	15 „
375	Twine of cotton, flax, hemp, or jute ...	„ 10 „	5 „

* The following additional *consumption* duties are also levied on imported sugar :—

Class I.	1	yen per 100 kins.
„ II.	3	„ „
„ III.	3·3	„ „
„ IV.	3·7	„ „

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

JAPAN—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Tariff Rates.	Increase under Law of 28th December, 1904.
		Yens.	
376	Threads of all kinds not otherwise provided for	*ad val.* 15 %	10 % *ad val.*
378	All other manufactures of tissues—		
	Of silk, wholly or in part	" 25 "	20 "
	All other	" 20 "	15 "
379	Cigars		
380	Cigarettes		
381	Snuff	" 150 "	100 "
382	Tobacco, cut		
384	All other prepared tobacco		
388*	Chinese alcoholic liquors of all kinds—		
	Fermented	" 100 "	30 "
393*	Saké, resembling the home brewage ...	" 100 "	30 "
399	Wines or fermented liquors of all other kinds	litre 0·275	litre 0·050
	When the quantity of pure alcohol, sp. gr. 0·7947 at 15° C., contained, exceeds 50 % in the original volume, 4 sens per 10 litres are to be added for every increase of 1 %.		
400	Aloeswood	100 kins 12·581	10 % *ad val.*
401	Amber—		
	Unworked	*ad val.* 10 %	10 "
	Worked	" 20 "	10 "
403	Animals other than cattle, horses, asses, mules, sheep, goats, and domestic fowls ...	" 10 "	5 "
404	Asbestos, in sheets or boards...	100 kins 1·268	5 "
405	Bamboo, unworked	*ad val.* 5 %	5 "
406	Beltings of leather, caoutchouc or canvas, and hose of caoutchouc or canvas, for machinery	" 10 "	5 "
407	Billiard tables and accessories	" 30 "	10 "
408	Blasting gelatine and other similar explosive compounds, including detonators and fuses	" 15 "	10 "
409	Bricks and tiles for building purposes ...	" 10 "	5 "
410	Brushes and brooms of all kinds	" 20 "	10 "
411	Canes, sticks and whips	" 20 "	10 "
413	Carriages, bicycles, tricycles and parts thereof...	" 25 "	10 "
417	Cars and drays for conveyance of commodities	" 10 "	5 "
418	Celluloid—		
	Worked	" 20 "	10 "
420	Chalk and whitening	100 kins 0·245	5 "
421	Charcoal, wood and animal	*ad val.* 5 %	5 "
422	Clay of all kinds	" 5 "	5 "
424	Coke	ton 1·557	5 "
425	Corals, worked or otherwise	*ad val.* 30 "	10 "

* Subject to the duties on alcohol (No. 69 of the Tariff) when the quantity of pure alcohol contained exceeds 65 per cent. in volume at the temperature of 15 degrees centigrade.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

JAPAN—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Tariff Rates.	Increase under Law of 28th December, 1904.
		Yens.	
426	Cordage and ropes of flax, hemp, jute, for rigging or otherwise...	100 kins 2·847	5 % *ad val.*
429	Diamonds, glaziers'	*ad val.* 10 %	5 „
431	Emery powder...	„ 5 „	5 „
432	„ cloth and sand paper...	„ 5 „	5 „
433	„ wheels, and grind stones of all kinds	„ 5 „	5 „
435	Fireworks of all kinds	„ 30 „	10 „
438	Flowers and blossoms, artificial	„ 25 „	10 „
439	Frames for pictures, and moulding... ...	„ 20 „	10 „
440	Funori (*Gleopertis intricata*)	100 kins 0·286	5 „
441	Furniture, new and old, not otherwise provided for	*ad val.* 20 %	10 „
442	Games, all articles of, used in playing tennis, cricket, chess, &c., not otherwise provided for	„ 25 „	10 „
443	Glue, common	100 kins 0·886	5 „
444	Gun-cotton	*ad val.* 15 %	10 „
445*a*	Gunpowder, smokeless	„ 15 „	10 „
445*b*	Gunpowder of all other kinds	100 kins 4·944	
446	Gypsum...	„ 0·064	5 „
448	Ivory, manufactures of, not otherwise provided for	*ad val.* 20 %	15 „
449	Jewellery	„ 35 „	10 „
451	Labels for bottles, tins, &c.	„ 15 „	5 „
452	Lamps and lanterns, and parts thereof ...	*ad val.* 20 %	10 „
454	Leather, manufactures of, not otherwise provided for	„ 20 „	10 „
455	Malt	100 kins 0·581	5 „
456	Matches of all kinds	*ad val.* 20 %	10 „
457	Matting, China, in rolls of 40 yards... ...	roll 1·004	5 „
458	Matting, cocoanut fibre	sq. yd. 0·093	5 „
459	Mats and matting, all other...	*ad val.* 20 %	5 „
463	Paintings, in oil or water colours, lithographs, chromo-lithographs, photographs, calligraphical albums, and all other paintings, pictures, and calligraphy, not otherwise provided for	„ 25 „	10 „
464*a*	Pitch	100 kins 0·149	5 „
464*b*	Wood-tar	„ 0·317	
464*c*	Coal-tar...	*ad val.* 5 %	
465	Plaster of Paris	100 kins 0·155	5 „
466	Playing cards of all kinds	*ad val.* 35 %	10 „
467	Plumbago or blacklead	100 kins 0·995	5 „
468	Pottery including porcelain, and earthenware, not otherwise provided for	*ad val.* 20 %	10 „
469	Precious stone, and pearls	„ 35 „	10 „
472	Putty	100 kins 0·219	5 „
473	Rattans, split or otherwise	100 „ 0·482	5 „
474	Saddles, bridles and harness	*ad val.* 25 %	10 „
475	Sandalwood	100 kins 1·085	10 „
476	Shoe-blacking of all kinds	*ad val.* 20 %	5 „
477	Smokers' articles (articles for use in smoking opium are excluded)...	„ 30 „	10 „

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

JAPAN—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Tariff Rates.	Increase under Law of 28th December, 1904.
		Yens.	
479	Soap-stone, in lump or powder	100 kins 0·127	5 % *ad val.*
480	Sparterie, for making hats	*ad val.* 10 %	5 „
481	Sponges	„ 5 „	5 „
482	Stones and slates, not otherwise provided for—		
	Rough or unworked for building purposes, &c....	„ 5 „	5 „
	Worked, for ornamental works or furniture, &c.	„ 20 „	10 „
	Statues, and other stone sculptured or engraved	„ 25 „	10 „
483	Submarine telegraphic cables and underground telegraphic lines or cables... ...	„ 10 „	10 „
484	Timber, santalum (Shitan)	100 kins 0·166	5 „
487	Toilet or dressing cases	*ad val.* 25 %	10 „
489	Tortoise-shell, manufactures of	„ 25 „	10 „
490	Toys of all kinds	„ 25 „	10 „
491	Trunks, portmanteaux and travelling or courier bags	„ 20 „	10 „
492	Umbrellas, parasols and sunshades—		
	Of silk wholly or in part...	„ 25 „	15 „
	All other	„ 20 „	10 „
493	Umbrella sticks and handles, except those made of gold or silver	„ 20 „	5 „
494	Vessels, steam or sailing, and boats... ...	„ 5 „	5 „
495	Wares of santalum or ebony wood	„ 25 „	10 „
496	All articles, raw or unmanufactured, not enumerated in the Tariff (except hat shapes, hat leathers, and steel strips for watch springs and umbrella ribs)... ...	„ 10 „	5 „
497	All articles manufactured, wholly or in part, not enumerated in the Tariff ...	„ 20 „	10 „

Customs Decisions. The following is the substance of two recent Decisions of the Japanese Minister for Finance affecting the classification of articles under the Japanese Customs Tariff:—

Paper cutting machines are dutiable under No. 17 of the Tariff at the rate of 10 per cent. *ad val.*

Gas holders are also dutiable under No. 17 of the Tariff at the rate of 10 per cent. *ad val.*

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SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Proposed Reductions in Railway Rates from Coast Ports to Johannesburg.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from their Correspondent at Port Elizabeth (Mr. J. S. Neave) copy of a statement showing the proposed reductions in railway rates from Coast Ports to Johannesburg, which, subject to the consent of the various South African Legislatures, will come into operation on the 1st May next.

The statement may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

New Rates at Durban for Forwarding Goods.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch have also been notified by their Correspondent at Durban (Mr. A. D. C. Agnew) that a notice has been issued by the General Manager of the Natal Government Railways to the effect that from the 1st March, 1905, the charge made by forwarding agents at the Port of Natal for forwarding agency and delivery of goods to the Railway Department will not exceed an all-round maximum rate of 2*s.* per ton. For mine and other machinery the charge will not exceed 1*s.* per ton. In both cases the weight is either one of 40 cubic feet, or 2,240 pounds, according to the bill of lading. These rates will only apply to consignments of two tons and over.

A list of the forwarding agents at Point and Durban, who have signified their concurrence in the new rates, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

GOLD COAST.

Reduction in Wharfage Dues.

The Gold Coast "Government Gazette" of 25th February publishes the text of an Order in Council, by which the wharfage dues payable on goods exported from the harbour of Sekondi are reduced from 2*s.* to 1*s.* per ton or part of a ton of goods shipped from a wharf in the said harbour.

Rules for the Regulation of Traffic and Carriage of Goods on the River Volta.

The same issue of the "Gazette" contains a set of rules approved by the Governor with respect to the regulation of traffic and the carriage of goods on the River Volta.

The "Gazette" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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Shipping and Transport.

FRENCH INDO-CHINA.

Completion of Vinh-Hanoi Railway.

The "Dépêche Coloniale" of 19th March reports that the final section of the Vinh-Hanoi railway was inaugurated by the Governor-General of French Indo-China on the 17th March. This line, which is 327 kiloms. long, will, it is anticipated greatly stimulate trade between Annam and Tonkin.

ARGENTINA.

Freight Rates for Meat and Butter to the United Kingdom.

Despatches have been received from H.M. Consul at Buenos Aires (Mr. A. Carnegie Ross, C.B.), furnishing the following particulars of freight rates for meat and butter from Argentina to ports in the United Kingdom:—

It is not the custom to give through bills of lading from inland towns in Argentina by rail and steamer to British ports or British inland towns. Each section of the journey is paid for separately.

There is no occasion for such through freights in the case of meat, as all the freezing establishments in the Argentine Republic are in seaports. There are none inland.

The nominal freight on frozen meat from Argentine ports to ports in the United Kingdom is ½*d.* per pound avoirdupois (net weight). The freight on chilled meat is about ⅙*d.* per lb. more than that on frozen meat.

The freight on butter from Argentina to United Kingdom is about ½*d.* per pound net weight, *i.e.*, not including weight of boxes. Each box contains exactly half-a-hundredweight. The box probably weighs 10 pounds or so.

Approximate railway rates on butter to the Buenos Aires Docks are as follows:—

By Passenger Train to Puerto Madero.			By Goods Train.
From	Distance.	Rate per 1,000 kilogs.	Rate per 1,000 kilogs.
	Kiloms.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Tandil	331	29·40	23 66
Gandara	100	11·20	9·92
Florencio Varela	31	5·60	5·81

NOTE.—11·45 dols. = 1*l.*

In the transit of butter for export a rebate of 20 per cent. on the above rates is granted.

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MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Enquiry under the Boiler Explosions Act.

A formal investigation was held on the 16th March into the circumstances attending the explosion of a boiler which occurred at Bedminster, Bristol, on the 16th December, 1904. The Commissioners found that the explosion was caused by the neglect of the owner, who was ordered to pay the sum of 50*l.* towards the cost of the investigation.

BRITISH WEST INDIES—LEEWARD ISLANDS.

Mineral Products.

The report for 1903-4 on the Leeward Islands states that there is, in Dominica, one sulphur mine at Soufrière, and there are mines containing molybdenum and copper in Virgin Gorda, one of the Virgin Islands group. Phosphates are found in the islands of Redonda and Barbuda.

The American Company that is exporting sulphur from the Soufrière has commenced operations under very favourable conditions, and the output of this product may be expected to assume considerable proportions. (*Colonial Office, Annual Reports*, 445.)

OTTOMAN EMPIRE.

Bitumen in Syria.

A recent report by the United States Consul at Beirut gives some interesting details regarding the bitumen deposits of Syria. These deposits, he states, were discovered some fifty years ago near Hasbeya, not far from the sources of the Jordan River. They are the property of the Sultan, and were formerly leased to a Beirut firm, who retained one-third of the mined product and paid all expenses, while the remaining two-thirds was sold by the "Liste civile" to the same firm. Provision was made for the suppression of any exploitation of the Dead Sea and Latakia bitumen, and thus a monopoly was created which raised or lowered the price per ton as the exigencies of the moment might dictate. Twenty years ago the price demanded, in the absence of any stock on hand, was about 47*l.* per ton. Abundant supplies were soon dug out, and in order to test the capacity of the world's markets, the price was gradually lowered to nearly 12*l.* per ton without, however, stimulating consumption commensurately. Ultimately the price went up to something like 30*l.* per ton, at which rate about 5,000 boxes of 100 kilogs. (220 pounds) each are sold annually in Hamburg, London, New York, Trieste and Genoa.

It is claimed that the Syrian bitumen is without a rival in the world, being exceptionally pure and rich in its native state. It is used, not for street paving, nor for covering ships' bottoms, nor for timber used in dams, &c., as are the Trinidad and South American asphaltes, but in the manufacture of black varnish for furniture,

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leather, &c. Dead sea bitumen is said to be superior even to the Hasbeya product, and bitumen of prime quality is found also near Latakia, in northern Syria. The Hasbeya pits are at present lying idle, and have been practically abandoned for ten years, the product now sold being old stock.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Production of Open-hearth Steel in 1904.

The "Bulletin" of the American Iron and Steel Association publishes statistics of the production of open-hearth steel in the United States in 1904, from which it appears that the production was larger than in 1903 or in any preceding year.

The following table shows the production of open-hearth steel ingots and castings in the last two years, and the process by which made:—

Open-hearth Steel.	1903.			1904.		
	Basic Process.	Acid Process.	Total.	Basic Process.	Acid Process.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Ingots	4,600,034	829,529	5,429,563	5,007,448	597,884	5,605,332
Castings	134,879	265,469	400,348	98,919	203,415	302,334
Total ...	4,734,913	1,094,998	5,829,911	5,106,367	801,299	5,907,666

AGRICULTURE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Corn Prices.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 25th March, 1905, were as follow:—

Wheat	30*s.*	9*d.*
Barley	25*s.*	2*d.*
Oats	17*s.*	0*d.*

For further particulars see p. 618.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

A statement is published on p. 619, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 25th March, 1905, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1904.

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Agriculture.

BRITISH WEST INDIES—LEEWARD ISLANDS.

Cotton Industry.

In the report on the Colony of the Leeward Islands for the year 1903-4, it is stated that a ginnery, with a steam engine, an oil engine, three gins, and a baling press, has been erected in Antigua. A ginnery has been erected in Nevis by private enterprise, assisted by the British Cotton-Growing Association. In St. Kitts the operation of the privately-owned ginnery has been continued. In Montserrat one privately-owned ginnery and two assisted by the British Cotton-Growing Association have been steadily worked.

The report adds that the cultivation of Sea Island cotton has been widely extended, a considerable acreage being placed under this crop in each island, except Dominica, which is not thought so suitable for the industry. The cultivation promises to be successful, though obviously those embarking in it will have to acquire skill by experience, and some years must elapse before the best results are realised. The industry is likely to be of great importance to Montserrat, Nevis, and Anguilla, where the sugar industry is carried on under difficulties. (*Colonial Office, Annual Reports*, 445).

FRANCE—TUNIS.

Development of Sericulture.

According to the "Feuille de Renseignements de la Régence de Tunis," the measures for the fostering of sericulture which were instituted in Tunis some years ago, were continued with fair success in 1904. Experiments carried out at Thala and Sbeïtlia, under somewhat unfavourable conditions as regards climate and appliances, gave satisfactory results and proved the possibility of rearing silkworms on the high plains. Lectures on sericulture, with practical demonstrations, given at Djerba under the auspices of the Government education authorities, were well attended. Successful experiments in sericulture were also made at Gabes and at Bardo, Manouba and Djedeïda and other places in the vicinity of Tunis. Attempts to acclimatise certain species of undomesticated silkworms are to be made by the military authorities during the present year.

MISCELLANEOUS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Cotton Statistics.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 23rd March, 1905, was 78,184 (including 7 bales British West Indian), and the number imported during the 12 weeks ended the 23rd March was 1,110,468 (including 635

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Miscellaneous.

bales British West African and 553 bales British West Indian). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 23rd March, 1905, 9,613 bales, and for the 12 weeks, 134,835 (including 16 bales British West African).

For further details see p. 618.

CAPE COLONY.

Trade in 1904.

Referring to the particulars of the trade of Cape Colony in 1904 given on pp. 497-8 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 16th March, the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from their correspondent at Port Elizabeth (Mr. J. S. Neave) the following statement showing the value of the imports (including Government articles) into Cape Colony last year, and whence imported, together with the value of the exports (including re-exports), from Cape Colony in the same period showing whither exported. The figures, both for imports and exports, are exclusive of specie:—

—	Imports.		Exports.	
	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	21,510,000	14,019,000	21,724,000	25,268,000
British Possessions... ...	2,424,000	2,725,000	209,000	187,000
Foreign Countries	9,828,000	5,030,000	569,000	1,114,000
Total... ...	33,762,000	21,824,000	22,502,000	26,569,000

TRINIDAD.

Suggested Establishment of a Cement Factory.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from the Collector of Customs in Trinidad a copy of a joint report by the Government Analyst and the Government Geologist of that Colony (Messrs. P. Carmody, F.I.C., F.C.S., and E. H. Cunningham Craig, F.G.S.) on the possibility of establishing a Portland cement factory in Trinidad.

These gentlemen are of opinion that clay and limestone suitable for cement-making exist in the Colony in sufficiently large quantities. They suggest that a cement factory, capable of producing not less than 200 tons a week, and capable also of extension to meet further possible requirements, might advantageously be established at Pointe-à-Pierre.

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Miscellaneous.

BRITISH WEST INDIES—LEEWARD ISLANDS.

Trade in 1903.

The following table showing the value of the trade of the Leeward Islands during each of the years 1901-3, is compiled from official figures published in the recently issued report on the Colony. (*Colonial Office, Annual Reports*, 445):—

Countries.	1901.		1902.		1903.	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	160,827	60,374	165,958	78,292	168,700	67,178
British Colonies	51,441	48,071	56,941	129,611	51,716	152,075
United States of America..	137,496	183,696	143,521	92,617	150,240	74,467
Other foreign countries ...	8,466	15,203	8,107	17,315	7,044	17,749
Total ... £	358,230	307,344	374,527	317,835	377,700	311,469

FRANCE—SENEGAL.

Brest-Dakar Cable: Tariff.

With reference to the notices on p. 376 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 23rd February, and p. 470 of the "Journal" of 9th March, relating to the Brest-Dakar cable, the French "Journal Officiel" of 22nd March publishes a tariff of the charges which will be made for telegrams transmitted by this cable.

The "Journal" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

AUSTRIA—HUNGARY.

Direct Importation of Virginia Tobacco into Trieste.

H.M. Consul at Trieste (Mr. H. L. Churchill) reports that the first cargo of Virginia tobacco that has ever reached that port arrived in September, 1904, by the Austrian steamer "Lacroma" from Newport News (United States), for the Austrian Tobacco Régie. Tobacco for the manufacture of Austrian Virginia cigars was formerly imported *viâ* Bremen and Hamburg. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,328.)

SERVIA.

Trade in 1903.

The following tables, showing the value of the imports and exports of Servia during each of the years 1899-1903*, is extracted from the recent report of the British Vice-Consul at Belgrade (Hon. W. G. Thesiger, D.S.O.):—

* At the date of the report the statistics for the first nine months of 1904 had not been published as has hitherto been the case.

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Miscellaneous.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total Trade.
	£	£	£
1899	1,857,144	2,629,775	4,486,919
1900	2,161,089	2,660,878	4,821,967
1901	1,753,417	2,627,426	4,380.843
1902	1,792,830	2,884,946	4,677,776
1903	2,329,410	2,398,696	4,728,106

(*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,329.)

SAN DOMINGO.

Amber Deposit.

The "Engineering and Mining Journal" (New York) states that an American company has recently exploited an amber deposit on the island of Santo Domingo, province of Santiago, Dominican Republic. The locality is at an altitude of 1,800 feet, near the top of a hill known as Palo Quemado (Burnt Post), at the head-waters of the Licey River, on a small branch of the Miguel Sanchez. It is situated about 30 miles inland from the coast, and lies some ten miles north-west of Tambonil and seven miles north of Santiago. The amber occurs in a friable, disintegrated, and much broken sandstone, which at times becomes a conglomerate and contains fragments of lignite. The amber itself is found loose in the soil and disintegrated rock, and also in the friable sandstone. It appears usually in ovate masses, from an inch or two to the size of a man's hand, round, sometimes flattened, dull on the exterior, and covered with a brown surface crust, like much of the Baltic amber and like buried resins generally. It possesses somewhat of the opalescent character of the beautiful amber from Roumania, and of that from Catania, Sicily. In colour it varies from yellow to rich brown.

CHILE.

Regulations respecting Insurance Companies.

With reference to the notice on p. 85 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 12th January as to a new Law respecting Insurance Companies in Chile, the "Diario Oficial" of Chile, of 16th February, contains the text of the regulations which have been promulgated for carrying out the provisions of that Law.

The "Diario" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the Week and 12 Weeks ended 23rd March, 1905.

—	Week ended 23rd Mar., 1905.	12 Weeks ended 23rd Mar., 1905.	Week ended 23rd Mar., 1905.	12 Weeks ended 23rd Mar., 1905.
	Imports. (Bales.)		Exports. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American	62,714	917,913	6,172	97,721
Brazilian	—	11,305	—	328
East Indian	379	14,316	260	4,629
Egyptian	14,844	147,757	3,179	31,491
Miscellaneous	247*	19,177†	2	666‡
Total	78,184	1,110,468	9,613	134,835

* Including 7 bales British West Indian.
† Including 635 bales British West African and 553 bales British West Indian.
‡ Including 16 bales British West African.

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 25th March, 1905, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

—	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 25th March, 1905	30	9	25	2	17	0
Corresponding week in—						
1898	35	3	27	11	17	10
1899	24	11	26	2	16	11
1900	25	10	24	11	17	2
1901	26	0	24	9	18	0
1902	27	2	27	2	20	7
1903	25	2	22	4	17	0
1904	28	2	22	8	16	7

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

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Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 25th March, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

—		Week ended 25th Mar., 1905.	*Corresponding Week in 1904.*
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number.	12,408	*12,291*
Sheep and lambs	"	5,510	*10,894*
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	205	*434*
Fresh Meat :—			
Beef	Cwts.	85,733	*93,917*
Mutton	"	101,218	*73,707*
Pork	"	10,618	*13,654*
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Cwts.	108,877	*125,012*
Beef	"	1,360	*2,074*
Hams	"	26,095	*21,050*
Pork	"	3,312	*4,626*
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ...	"	17,539	*16,069*
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting...	"	17,313	*19,980*
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwts.	195,276	*80,011*
Margarine	"	24,852	*18,524*
Cheese	"	24,734	*25,011*
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	*30*
" cream	"	91	*53*
" condensed	"	20,293	*21,339*
" preserved, other kinds...	"	406	*330*
Eggs	Grt. Hundr.	318,356	*317,559*
Poultry	Value £	33,166	*26,022*
Game	"	3,016	*3,787*
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	Cwts.	5,717	*1,651*
Lard	"	38,595	*35,369*
Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—			
Wheat	Cwts.	2,514,100	*1,486,400*
Wheat meal and flour	"	242,400	*442,700*
Barley	"	510,300	*612,100*
Oats	"	334,800	*175,600*
Peas	"	46,170	*21,140*
Beans	"	16,950	*17,800*
Maize or Indian corn	"	584,200	*1,118,400*
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Cwts.	112,770	*80,901*
Apricots and peaches	"	21	—
Bananas	Bunches.	51,589	*32,025*
Cherries	Cwts.	—	—
Currants...	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	—	—
Grapes	"	508	*127*
Lemons	"	6,018	*11,862*
Oranges	"	194,096	*192,328*
Pears	"	176	*221*
Plums	"	127	—
Strawberries	"	—	—
Unenumerated	"	51	*1,031*
Hay...	Tons.	953	*2,454*
Straw	"	1,235	*2,554*
Moss Litter*	"	2,600	—
Hops	Cwts.	690	*1,443*
Locust Beans	"	12,338	*28,336*
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels.	62,499	*199,628*
Potatoes	Cwts.	23,720	*304,152*
Tomatoes	"	24,908	*14,760*
Unenumerated	Value £	13,695	*14,422*
Vegetables, dried	Cwts.	640	*404*
Preserved by canning...	"	10 874	*4,274*

* Not shown in 1904.

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GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of February, 1905, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance of 1*s.* 1*d.* per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1903, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s.* 1*d.* for the first, and 5*s.* for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1899–1903, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade on the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the March issue:—State of the Labour Market in February; Fatal Industrial Accidents in 1904; Spindles and Looms in Woollen and Worsted Factories; Relief of the Unemployed.

FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in Consular Reports of the **Annual Series** issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

ANNUAL.

No. 3,329. Trade of Servia for 1903.

Statistics of imports and exports for 1899-1903.

Great diminution of exports in 1903, owing principally to the bad harvest.

Detailed examination of principal imports.

Table showing the value and variation of British trade in 1902-03.

Probable large demand for railway plant in the near future.

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Government Publications.

No. 3,330. Trade of Consular District of Brest for 1904.

Statistics of imports, exports and shipping at Brest, Morlaix, Le Légué and Lorient.

Approaching completion of the breakwater at Brest.

Improvements carried out in various lights, lighthouses and beacons.

Details of light railways in course of construction.

OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

New German Tariff as modified by Treaties. Statement. [*Cd.* 2,414.] *Price* 1*s.* 10*d.*

This Return contains a translation of the new "General" Customs tariff of Germany, and shows in parallel columns the changes effected therein by the commercial arrangements recently entered into by Germany with Russia, Switzerland, Italy, Roumania, Belgium, Austria-Hungary, and Servia; a statement is is also given of the resultant conventional tariff, *i.e.*, the rates, arising from the "general" tariff and the concessions to the Powers named, which will be applied to imports from all countries entitled to most-favoured-nation treatment in Germany on 1st March next, when the new tariff and treaties come into operation. A statement of the rates tenable under the existing German tariff has been inserted, and the Return thus exhibits clearly a comparison of the present customs duties levied on British goods in Germany with those leviable on and after 1st March, 1906.

INFORMATION ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

Information on the subjects named in the notice on the cover will be found in the following Board of Trade publications, obtainable in London upon application to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W., and their Sub-Agents, Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, at the prices named, viz.:—

1 "Board of Trade Journal," 3rd September, 1903, pp. 448–61, 5th May, 1904, p. 216, 4th August, 1904, p. 212, 10th November, 1904, pp. 265–6, and 9th February, 1905, p. 259, at 1*d.* per number.

Differential Duties Return (Cd. 2,394) at 1*s.* 6*d.*

2	Statistical Abstract for the United Kingdom, 51st number (Cd. 2,192) at 1*s.* 3*d.*	pp. 28/29
3		p. 12
4		pp. 176/191
5		pp. 57/157

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Government Publications.

5 Monthly Accounts relating to Trade and Navigation (0.10) at 8½*d.*
Annual Statement of Trade, 1903.
Vol. I. (Cd. 2,043) at 7*s.* 1*d.* ... pp. 166 *et seq.*
Annual Statement of Trade, 1903.
Vol. II. (Cd. 2,081) at 5*s.* ... pp. 177/453

6 Annual Abstract of Labour Statistics, pp. 176/182
7 9th No. (Cd. 1,755) at 1*s.* ... pp. 34/72

7 Report on Changes in Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour (Cd. 2,199), at 7*d.*

8 Colonial Import Duties Return (Cd. 2,185) 2*s.* 1*d.*

9 Canada (Preferential Tariff for goods from the United Kingdom), No. 310, at ½*d.*

10 Statistical Abstract for the Colonial and other Possessions of the United Kingdom, 41st No. (Cd. 1,912) at 1*s.* 10*d.* ... ... pp. 38/243
Statistical Abstract for the British Empire, 1st No. (Cd. 2.395) at 6*d.* ... ... pp. 3/45
Trade (Colonies and the United Kingdom) ...No. 262, 2*d.*
Trade (Colonies and Foreign Countries) ... ...No. 110, 2*d.*

11 Foreign Import Duties Return (Cd. 2,340) at 2*s.*
New German Tariff as modified by Treaties (Cd. 2,414) at 1*s.* 10*d.*

12 Statistical Abstract for the principal and other foreign countries, 30th number (Cd. 2,202) at 1*s.* 6*d.* ... ... pp. 44/217

13 Trade between the United Kingdom and Germany (131) at 1½*d.*

14 Memorandum on the comparative Statistics of Population, Industry, and Commerce in the United Kingdom and some leading foreign countries (Cd. 1,199) at 5½*d.*

15 British and Foreign Trade and Industry. Memoranda, Statistical Tables and Charts (Cd. 1,761) at 3*s.* 6*d.*
British and Foreign Trade and Industry (Second Series). Second Series of Memoranda, Statistical Tables and Charts (Cd. 2,337) at 3*s.* 6*d.*

16 Naval Expenditure and Mercantile Marine (Great Britain, &c.) (284) at 1*d.*

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Government Publications.

LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

THE following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since 1st January, 1905, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

No.	Place.	Price
	EUROPE—	
	Austria-Hungary:	
3328	Trieste, 1904	1½*d.*
	Belgium:	
3327	Antwerp—Shipping ...1904	7½*d.*
3325	Belgium—Finances 1904–05	1*d.*
	Denmark:	
3324	Denmark (Supplementary) 1903	½*d.*
	France:	
3330	Brest 1904	1½*d.*
	German Empire and Colonies:	
624	*Memorandum on German Cement*	½*d.*
630	*Technical Instruction in Germany: Supplementary and Miscellaneous* ...	4*d.*
	Italy:	
3320	Italy 1903	1½*d.*
3323	South Italy 1904	1½*d.*
	Russia:	
628	*Cultivation of Tea in the Caucasus*	½*d.*
	Servia:	
3329	Servia 1903	1½*d.*
	AFRICA—	
3321	Somaliland Protectorate... ... 1903–04	3*d.*
3322	Tangier and District ...	1½*d.*
	AMERICA, NORTH—	
	United States of America:	
3326	Baltimore 1904	1½*d.*
625	*Rice Industry in the United States*	2*d.*
626	*Iron and Steel Exhibits at the St. Louis Exhibition*...	2½*d.*
627	*United States Railways* ...	2½*d.*
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The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is now issued weekly at the price of 1*d*. All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

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Merchants, Manufacturers, and Shippers whose Advertisements appear in the "Board of Trade Journal."

(*Where no folio is given, Advertisement does not appear in this issue.*)

PAGE

sorbent Blottings—
Tullis, R., & Co., Markinch, Fife 28

amantine Clinker (Regd.)—
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham 6

miralty Charts—
Potter, J. D., 145, Minories .. 10

ents (Colonial & Foreign)—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., London, E.C. 54

ricultural Seeds—
Cooper, Taber & Co., 90 & 92, Southwark Street, S.E. ... 10
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ...

ir Compressors—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks 6

le, Beer, and Stout Merchants—
Daukes & Co., Strand, London 17

lkali Manufacturers—
Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire 41
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool 2

lloys—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. 54

PAGE

Ammonia, Anhydrous, & Liquid—
Brotherton & Co., Leeds (Carbonate of Ammonia, Muriate of Ammonia, &c.)

Ammonia (Anhydrous), Valves for—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow 6

Ammunition Manufacturers—
King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham 31
Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow 58

Antifouling Composition for Ships—
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 38

Anti-friction Metal—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. 54

Antimony Paint—
Parker & Lester, London, S.E. C

Antiquities in Sundials—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Artists' Colours—
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 38

Athletic Goods Manufacturers—
Quaife Bros. & Lilley, 313, Broad Street, Birmingham

PAGE

Bags and Sacks—
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool 34

Barrels, Casks, Shooks, &c.—
Rankin, G. & J., Ltd., 2/4, Houlgrove St., Liverpool...

Baths, Porcelain, Enamelled (Cast Iron)—
Clark, T. & C., & Co., Wolverhampton ... ...

Bedding—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., South Place, Finsbury, E.C. ...

Bedsteads (Iron and Brass)—
Bott, J. T., Ltd., Glover Street, Birmingham... ...
Evered & Co., London and Birmingham ... ...
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Bordesley, Birmingham, and South Place, Finsbury, E.C.
Hoyland, John, Ltd., Birmingham and London ...

Bellows—
Brison, E., & Co., Bristol ...

Bevelled and Bent Glass—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham 5

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Billiard Table Manufacturers—
Cox & Yeman, London, S.W.
Edwards, George, London, N.E. 47

Binoxide of Barium—
Bessler, Waechter & Co., 18 & 19, Fenchurch Street, E.C. 33
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle 20

Bird Seeds and Foods—
Hyde, R., & Co., London, S.E. 10

Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, J., & Son, 58, City Road, E.C.... ... ...

Biscuit Manufacturers—
Hubbard, Walter, Partick, Glasgow. Export Agent—J. S. Morrison, Son & Jones, Peninsular Buildings, London, E.C. 16

Blacking (Nubian)—
The Nubian Manufacturing Co., Lorrimore St., London, S.E. 20

Blankets—Cotton—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester. 29

Bleaching Powder—
Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire ... 41
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool 2

PAGE

Blue Manufacturers—
Edge, Wm., & Sons, Ltd., Bolton... 48

Boiler Incrustation (Prevention and Removal of)—
The Boilerine Manufacturing Co., Old Kent Road, S.E... 8
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Boiler Makers—
Butterley Co.(The), Ld., Derby 56
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton 56
Garrett, R., & Son, Ltd., Leiston, R.S.O. 52
Hartley & Sugden, Ltd., Halifax 16
Marriott & Graham, Govan, N.B. 53

Boiler Makers and Heating Engineers—
Riley, J. Ashton, Ltd., Manchester Road, Huddersfield

Boiler Tubes—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury 46

Bolts, Nuts and Screws—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 1
Perlam, Herb. W., Birmingham (Screws, Rivets, Washers, Nails (Roofing)) 3

Bone Mill Manufacturers—
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable

PAGE

Boot Polish, "Balmoral Glass," "Nubian Ojo Paste"—
The Nubian Manufacturing Co., Lorrimore St., London. S.E. 9

Boots and Shoes—
Lewis, C. & E., Northampton 32

Bottled Fruits—
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading 16

Brass Finishers—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury 46

Brassfounders—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. 54

Brass Plate Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn ... ...

Brass Scrap Merchants—
Adams, John, & Sons, Newcastle-on-Tyne 13

Bread & Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Brick & Tile Manufacturers—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Enamelled and Glazed Bricks, Glazed Wall Tiles)
Pearson, E.J. & J., Stourbridge
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham 6
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

O MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

ckmaking Machinery— PAGE
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley. Staffs ... ...

nze Manufacturers—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. 54
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. 38

ish Manufacturers—
Brison, E., & Co., Bristol ...
Wellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. 32

bs—
Cooper, Taber & Co., Ltd., London 10

iting Manufacturers—
Riley, E., & Co., Providence Street Mills, Leeds ... ...

ton Manufacturers—
Smith & Wright, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

les and Wires—
Connolly Bros., Ltd., Blackley, Manchester 8
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. C
Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. 56
Telegraph Manufact'ng Co., Ltd., The, Helsby, Warrington ... ...

Candle Manufacturers— PAGE
Ogston & Tennant, Ltd., Aberdeen 33
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. 30

Carbolic Acid—
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Carbonic Acid Gas Valves—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow 6

Carboys—
Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks 5

Carpets and Rugs—
Barton, J. E., & Sons, Kidderminster 13

Carriage Builders—
Forder & Co., Ltd., Warrant Holders to H.M. the King, Upper St. Martin's Lane, W.C.; Works, Wolverhampton 49

Cartridge Manufacturers—
Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow 58

Cement Manufacturers—
Peters Bros., London, S.W.... 32
West Kent Portland Cement Co., Burham, nr. Rochester 8

Charm Manufacturers— PAGE
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Chemical Manufacturers—
Anglo - Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. 62
Bessler, Waechter & Co., London, E.C. 33
Blythe, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs 25
Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., Northwich, Cheshire ... 41
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith 56
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle 20
Miller, Jas., Son & Co., Glasgow 33
The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool 2

Chemical Manure Manufacturers—
Anglo - Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. 62
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B. 56

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Chemical Manure Manufacturers—*continued*—
Richards, G. H., 234, Borough High Street, S.E. ... ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool 2

Chemical & Physical Apparatus—
Reynolds & Branson, Ltd., Leeds ... ...

Chemists (Manufacturing)—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ... 18
Scott & Bowne, Ltd., London, E.C. (Scott's Emulsion) ... 15
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A, Southwark Street, London, S.E. 18

Chilled Shot—
The Abbey Improved Chilled Shot Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne ... ...

Chimney Cowl Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester ...

Chimney Shaft, &c., Builder and Repairer—
Lewis, Joseph, 5 and 6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. 60

China Clay—
Lovering, John, & Co., St. Austell C

PAGE

China Door Furniture Mnfrs.—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C... 21

China Electrical Fittings—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C... 21

China Manufacturers—
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. 32
Lovering, John, & Co., St. Austell, Cornwall C

Chronometers—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....
Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 and 34, Cockspur Street, London... ... 59

Clocks and Watches—
Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 and 34, Cockspur Street, London... ... 59
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. 32

Cloth Finishing Machines—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee 19

Clothing (Fustian)—
Brown, R. B., & Sons, Hebden Bridge... 14

Clothing Manufacturers (Fustian)—
Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge 14

Clothing and Woollen Mnfrs.—
Grainger & Smith, Dudley ...

PAGE

Cloths for Machinery—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury 20

Clutch Manufacturers—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks 6

Coal and Coke—
Cannock Chase Colliery Co., Ltd., Birmingham ... ...
Cory Bros., & Co., Ltd., Cardiff 25
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. ... 11
Wharncliffe Woodmoor Colliery Co., Ltd., Barnsley... 36
Wigan Coal and Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan 11

Coal Depot Proprietors—
Cory Bros. & Co., Cardiff ... 25
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. ... 11

Coal Screening Plant—
Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield ... ...

Coatings—Cotton—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester 29

Cocoa and Chocolate Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Coffee Mill Manufacturers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

olliery Engines— PAGE
Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield 24

olliery Owners—
Cannock Chase Colliery Co., The, Ltd., Birmingham ...
Cory Bros. & Co., Cardiff ... 25
Lanemark Coal Co., Ltd., New Cumnock, N.B. ... 11
Wharncliffe Woodmoor Colliery Co., Ltd., Barnsley... 36

olour Manufacturers—
Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen...
Levinstein, Ltd., Manchester
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. 38
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C.
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 38

omposition for Bottoms of Ships—
Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen...
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...

ompressed Gases (Fittings for)—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow 6

oncertinas (English)—
Lachenal & Co., Little James Street, W.C. 17

onfectioners—
Craven, M. A., & Son, Ebor Confectionery Works, York 30

onfectioners' Colours, Essences, &c.—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ... 18
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours and Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., Hackney Wick, N.E. 15
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A, Southwark Street, London, S.E. 18

onfectioners (Manufacturing, Wholesale and Export)—
Craven, M. A., & Son, Ebor Confectionery Works, York 30

Coping and Paving Bricks— PAGE
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Copper Tape, Wire Rope, &c.—
Connolly Bros., Ltd., Blackley, Manchester 8
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. C

Corks—
Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks 5

Cotton Bagging—
Judge, T. & W., London, S.E. 43

Cotton Goods—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow 14
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury
Spinner, E., & Co., Manchester 20

Cotton Waste—
Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester... ... C

Cranes, Crab-Winches—
Russell, George, & Co., Motherwell, N.B. ... ...

Creosote—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool 2
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Damp Wall Compositions—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. 2

Decklights and Porthole Glasses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Birmingham 5

Decorated Tin Plates—
The Tinplate Decorating Co., Ltd., Neath 34

Decorative Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Delta Metal Manufacturers—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. 54

Disinfectants—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool 2
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... .

Disintegrators— PAGE
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable... ... ...
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ... ...

Distillers—
Crawford, Daniel, & Son, Ltd., Glasgow 22
Dailuaine - Talisker Distilleries, Ltd., Carron, Strathspey 22
Distillers Co., Ltd., The, Edinburgh 22

Docks (Floating) Caissons, &c.—
Cardiff Railway Co., The, Bute Docks, Cardiff; London Office, 22A, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W. 36
Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Co., Wyre Dock, Fleetwood 63

Door Furniture—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C... 21

Drilling Machines—
Northern Engineering Co., Ltd., King's Cross, near Halifax 27

Drills—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester. 29

Dry Soap—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool 2
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Dye Merchants—
Edge, Wm., Sons & Co., Bolton... 48

Edge Tools—
Thornton, G., & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Electrical Fittings (China)—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C.... 21

Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and Contractors—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C.... 21
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. C

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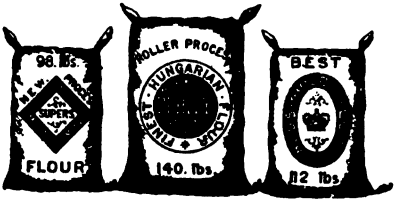

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and Contractors— *continued—* PAGE

Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. 56

Lewis, Joseph, 5-6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. 60

Electric Bells—

Wright, Archibald J., Ltd., 318, Upper St., London, N.

Electric Light Fittings—

Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C.... 21

Electric Novelties—

Wright, Archibald J., Ltd., 318, Upper St., London, N.

Electrical Screws (Iron, Steel or Brass)—

Acme Lathe Co., Ltd., The, Ardwick, Manchester ...

Emery and Corundum Wheel Manufacturers—

London Emery Works Co., Park, Tottenham 46

Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, near Manchester ... 2

Emery and Glass Cloth—

London Emery Works Co., Park, Tottenham 46

Emery and Glass Paper—

London Emery Works Co., Park, Tottenham 46

Emery Grindg. Machine Mkrs.—

London Emery Works Co., Park, Tottenham 46

Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester 2

Emery Manufacturers—

London Emery Works Co., Park, Tottenham ... ...

Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (Emery Wheel and Corundum Wheel Manufacturers) ... 2

Enamel Colours—

Farquhar & Gill, Aberdeen... 32

Enamelled Fire Clay Sinks— PAGE

Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

Encaustic Tiles—

Woolliscroft, G., & Sons, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs... ...

Engine Cleaning Waste—

Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester... ... C

Engineers—

Northern Engineering Co., Halifax 27

Engineers (Boilers)—

Riley, J. Ashton. Ltd., Manchester Road, Huddersfield

Engineers' Ironfounders—

Robertson & Orchar, Dundee (Machine Moulded Wheels) 19

Whittingham & Porter, Hull 60

Wigan Coal and Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan 11

Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorkhouse 6

Engineers' Oil Cans—

Kaye, Joseph, & Sons, Ltd., Leeds 60

Engineers' Stores—

Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Engineers' Tool Makers—

Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield 26

Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury 46

Engineers and Millwrights— *General—*

Aveling & Porter, Rochester (Locomotives, Road Rollers, &c.) 51

Baird, W., & Co., Glasgow (Pig Iron, Coal, Coke, &c.) ... C

Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Burrell, C., & Sons, Ltd., Thetford (Locomotives, Steam Rollers, Traction Engines) 3

Chidlaw, Robert, Manchester

Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton 56

Garrett, R., & Sons, Leiston, Suffolk 52

Engineers and Millwrights— *General—continued—* PAGE

Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N. 45

Howorth, J., & Co., Farnworth, Manchester 13

Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (various forms of Engineers' Grinding and Polishing Machinery) 2

Marriott & Graham, Govan, Glasgow (Boiler Makers)... 53

Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield 24

Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London C

Robertson & Orchar, Dundee 19

Russell, G., & Co., Motherwell, N.B. ... ...

Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. 4

Spencer, Moulton & Co., Ltd., Bradford-on-Avon, Wilts... 31

Whiteley, William, & Sons, Lockwood, Huddersfield...

Whittingham & Porter, Hull 60

Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorkshire 6

Engine Packings—

Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Engine-cleaning Waste—

Jones, W. C., Ltd., Manchester C

Engine Roll Bars—

Crookes, Roberts & Co., Sheffield 26

Essence Manufacturers—

Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ... 18

Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading 16

Confectioners' Vegetable Colours & Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., The, London, N.E. 15

Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. 61

London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...

Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark-street, London, S.E. 15

THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Essences, &c.—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ... 18
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. 18

Essential Oils—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ... 18
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. 18

Exhibition Agents—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn... ... ...

Exhibition Fitters—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn ... ...

Fancy Goods, Dealers in, Importers, Warehousemen and Manufacturers—
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. 32

Fancywood Merchants—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool 19

Fan Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester ... 13

Feeding Stuffs (for Cattle & Sheep)—
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B. 56

Felts (Paper Makers' Machine)—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury 20

Fencing (Steel and Iron)—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich 16

File Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield 26

Filter Manufacturers—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London C

Fire Bricks—
Calder Fireclay Co., The, Coatbridge... ... ...
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

Fire Bricks—*continued*— PAGE
King Bros., Stourbridge ...
Pearson, E. J. & J., Stourbridge
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham 6

Fire Clay—
King Bros., Stourbridge ...
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham 6

Fire Clay Goods—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Sinks) ... ...

Firelighters—
Glover, M., & Co., Leeds ... 13

Flag and Banner Manufacturers—
Piggott Bros. & Co., London, E.C. 28

Flannel Manufacturers—
Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale 29
Spinner & Co., Manchester...

Flour Mill Engineers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Flour Millers—
Appleby, Josh., & Sons, Ltd., Liverpool 9
Vernon, W., & Sons, Liverpool 9

Forks—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Forwarding Agents—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., 38, Lime Street, E.C. 54

French Chalk—
Anglo-Italian Talc and Plumbago Mines Co., Ltd., 26, Old Hall Street, Liverpool 3

Fruit Essence Manufacturers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... ... 18
Confectioners' Vegetable Colours & Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., London, N.E. ... 15
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. 18

Furniture Trade Printers—
Smiley & Shaw, London, E.C.

Fustian Clothing Manufacturers—
Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge 14

Fustian (Piece Goods)— PAGE
Moss Bros. (Hebden Bridge), Ltd. 63

Galvanized Iron Manufacturers—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham C

Galvanized Wire Netting—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich 16

Garden Adornments—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Garden Furniture—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich 16

Garden Requisite Manufacturer—
Richards, G. H., 234, Borough High Street, S.E. ... ...

Gas Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Manchester ... ...

Gas Furnaces—
Cannington, Shaw & Co., St. Helens, Lancashire 27

Gas Governors—
Shaw, Joseph, Huddersfield..

Gas-Tight Motors—
Hodson Wright & Wood, Halifax ... ...

Gates, Railings, and Hurdles—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich 16

Gauge Glasses—
Butterworth Bros., Newton Heath, Manchester ... ...
Tomey & Sons, Perth 8
Tomey, Joseph, & Sons, Messrs., Ltd., Manor Glass Works, Aston, Birmingham

Gauge Glass Protectors—
Tomey, Joseph, & Sons, Messrs., Ltd., Manor Glass Works, Aston, Birmingham

Gear Cutter—
Chidlaw, Robert, 43, City Road, Manchester 13

Gelatines—
The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan

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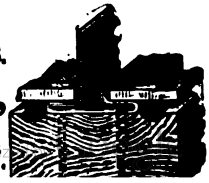

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

General Export Merchants—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E.... 14

Gin Distillers—
Distillers Co., Ltd., The, Edinburgh... 22
Hills & Underwood, London, E.C. 33

Girders (Iron and Steel)—
Scott, Walter, Ltd., Leeds ...

Glass and Emery Paper—
London Emery Works Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Glass Bottles—
Breffit, E., & Co., Ltd., Castleford, Yorks 5
Cannington, Shaw & Co., Ltd., St. Helens 27

Glass Case Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn ... ...

Glass Manufacturers—
Robinson, J. B., 31, Moor Lane, E.C.... ... ...
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham 5

Glass Works—
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham 5

Glazed Bricks—
Woolliscroft, G., & Sons, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Glazed Fire Clay Sinks—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

Glaziers' Diamonds—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Glues—
The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan ...

Glycerine—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. 30

Golf Balls—
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ("Melfort" and "Henley")... C

PAGE

Grain Cleaning Machinery—
Boby, Robt., Ltd., Bury St. Edmunds ... ...

Granite Merchants—
Freeman, John, Sons & Co., Ltd., Penryn, Cornwall (Engineering and Architectural) C

Grease Manufacturers—
Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool 18
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 38

Grinding Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable ... ...

Grinding & Polishing Machry.—
London Emery Works Co., London, E.C. 46
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester (Makers of various forms of)... ... 2

Guano Manufacturers—
Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. 62

Gummed Paper—
Jones, S., & Co., 56, Carter Lane, St. Paul's, E.C. ...

Hammers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield 26

Hams and Bacon—
Nickson, G. & J., & Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Hand Looms—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ld., Bury

Hardwood Merchants—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool 19

Hat Manufacturers—
Christy & Co., London, E.C.

Heating & Ventilating Engineers—
Hartley & Sugden, Halifax (Boilers) 16
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. 4

Hinge and Lock Manufacturers—
Crompton, Thomas, Ashton, near Wigan ... ...

PAGE

Hoes—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ... ...
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Holloware—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham C

Hop Commissioners—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ...

Hose—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Hose-Pipe Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Hosiery—
Walker, R., & Sons, Rutland Street, Leicester 29

Hosiery & Finishing Machnry.—
Berridge, I. L., & Co., Leicester (Sole Proprietors Griswold Knitters) ... ...

Hosiery Yarns—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford 29

Humidifier Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester ...

Hydraulic Engineers—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Hydraulic Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds ... ...

Hydraulic Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Ice Machine Manufacturers—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London C

Incandescent Lamps—
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. C
Hooper's Telegraph & India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. 38

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

India-rubber Goods—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C... 34

India-rubber Manufacturers—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C... 34
Harris, Joseph, Altrincham (Advertising Balloons, Squeakers, and Rubber Surgical Appliances) ... 38
India-Rubber, Gutta-Percha & Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Injectors—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Ink Manufacturers—
Blackwell & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Inkstands—
Darke, E., 14a, Gt. Marlborough Street, W. ... ...

Insecticides (Horticultural)—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. 18

Insulators—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C. .. 21

Iron Buildings—
Ash, J., & Son, Rea Street, South Birmingham C
Humphreys, Ltd., Knightsbridge, London, S.W. ...

Iron Plate Workers—
Ash, J., & Son, Rea Street, South Birmingham C

Iron Safes—
Ratner Safe Co., Ltd., Hancock Road, Bow, E. 13

Ironfounders—
Roberts, J. & S., Ltd., West Bromwich ... ...
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee 19
Saxby & Farmer, Canterbury Road, London, N.W. ...
Whittingham & Porter, Hull 60
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks 6

PAGE

Ironmasters—
Baird, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Gartsherrie, N.B. C
Parkgate Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham 23
Whiteley & Sons, Ltd., Huddersfield ... ...

Ironstone Adamant Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs. ... ...

Jute Weaving Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Knitting Machine Builders—
Stibbe, G., & Co., Leicester...
Harrison Patent Knitting Machine Co., Ltd., 227, Upper Brook Street, Manchester ... ...

Lacquer Manufacturers—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E... 62
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E. ... ...
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. 38

Lamp Manufacturers—
Bladon, T. E., 99 and 100, Northwood Street, Birmingham; London address, 4, Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, E.C. ... ...

Lathes (Turning, Polishing, &c.)—
Fabricotti, B., London, S.W..
Northern Engineering Co., Ltd., King's Cross, near Halifax 27

Launch Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Patricroft, Manchester ...

Launch Oil Engines—
The Seal Motor Co., Hammersmith, London ... ...

Lead Glazing—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N. 45

Lead Manufacturers—
Hall, W., Winstanley Road, Battersea, S.W.... ... ...

Leather Belting (Link)—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

PAGE

Leather Reviver—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E. 62

Leggings and Gaiters—
Wallace, Bailey & Wilkins, Bermondsey, London, S.E.

Lens Manufacturers for Ships and Railway Lamps—
Stevens, James, & Son, Birmingham 5

Letter Cutters—
Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield ... 13

Lifts—
Clark, Bunnett, & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. 60
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

Lightning Conductor Manufacturer and Erector—
Lewis, Joseph, 5 & 6, Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. 60

Lime Juice—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. 61

Liquorice Wafers—
Hillabys', Ltd., Pontefract... 17

Lithographic Varnish—
Coates Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Locomotive Engine Builders—
Aveling & Porter, Ltd., Rochester 51
Burrell, C., & Sons, Ltd., Thetford 3
Garrett, R., & Sons, Leiston, Suffolk 52

Looking Glass Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn ... ...
Robinson, J. B., 31, Moor Lane, E.C.... ... ...

Loom Makers—
Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee 19

Lubricants—
Bremner, J. A., & Co., Manchester 31
Fleming, A. B., & Co., Edinburgh 18
Nobel Bros., Petersburg ... 57

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Lubricants—*continued*— PAGE
Palmer, W. H., & Co., London, E.C. 38
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. 30

Lubricating Oils—
Light, Jas., & Son, Ltd., 9, Rumford Street, Liverpool 18
Nobel Bros., Petersburg ... 57
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Lubricators—
Nobel Bros., Petersburg ... 57

Machine Felts—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury 20

Machine Knives, Cutters & Blades—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... 26

Machine Makers—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee 19

Machine Screws, Bolts, Nuts, &c.—
Acme Lathe Co., Ltd., The, Ardwick, Manchester ...

Magnesia—
Henry, T. & W., East Street, St. Peters, Manchester ...

Manchester Warehousemen—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E. ... 14

Manures (Chemical)—
Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. 62
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd. Leith 56
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle 20
Thomson. Wm., & Sons, Ltd., Clovenfords by Galashiels (for Vines & Plants) ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool 2

Marble and Granite Merchant and Importer—
Fabbricotti, B., Pimlico, London, S.W. C

Marble Manufacturers of all Descriptions—
Fabbricotti, B., Pimlico, London, S.W. C

Margarine (for Export)—
Buttapat Dairy Co., Commercial Road, Liverpool ...

Mattresses (Woven Wire)— PAGE
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Hay Mill, Birmingham ... ...
Lane, George, & Sons, Brueton Street, Birmingham ...

Medical Plasters—
De St. Dalmas, A., & Co., Leicester 10

Metal Merchants and Manfrs.—
Billington & Newton, Longport, Staffs. 44
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. 54
Dugard Bros., Birmingham... 15
King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham 31

Metal Polish—
Baumgartner, J. F., & Co., London, W. 61

Military and Naval Ornaments—
Narborough, F., 40, 42, 44, Lombard Street, Birmingham ... ...
Wilkins, T. B., 52, Clement Street. Birmingham... ...

Mill Engineers—
Glover, M., & Co., Leeds ... 13

Mine Owners—
Wigan Coal & Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan (Producers of Best House, Gas and Steam Coals, and Wigan Cannel) 11

Mineral Waters—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. 61

Mining Lamps (all classes)—
Cooke, Joseph, & Son (Belmont Passage), 203, Lawley Street, Birmingham 13

Mortar and Pestle Manfrs.—
Bullers, Ltd., London E.C.... 21

Mortice Furniture—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C.... 21

Mosaic and Tiles Decoration—
Geary, Walker & Co., 11, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C. ... ...
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs. ... ...

Motors (Gas Tight)—
Hodgson, Wright & Wood, Halifax ... ...

Mushroom Ketchup— PAGE
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading 16

Musical Instrument Manfrs.—
Lachenal & Co., London, W.C. 17

Mustard Seed—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ...

Nails—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 1

Name Plate Makers—
Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield ...

Newspapers—
Colliery Guardian, 49, Essex Street, Strand, W.C. ... 42

Night Lights—
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. 30

Oar Manufacturers—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool ... ...

Office Fittings—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn ... ...

Oilcake (Linseed and Cotton)—
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B. 56

Oil Cans—
Bladon, T. E., 99 & 100, Northwood Street, Birmingham; London address, 4, Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, E.C. ... ...
Kaye, Joseph, & Sons, Ltd., Leeds ... ...

Oil Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Manchester ... ...
The Seal Motor Co., Hammersmith, London ... ...

Oil Mill Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

Oil Refiners, Distillers, & Mfrs.—
Bremner, Jno. A., & Co., Manchester 31
Fleming, A. B., & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh... 18
Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool 18

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

il Refiners, Distillers, and Manufacturers—*continued*— PAGE

Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. 30
Robinson, J. B., London, E.C. ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 38

al Tiling—

The Permanent Decorative Glass Co., Ltd., Lancaster..

e Crushing Machines—

Baxter, W. H., Leeds 31

ens—

Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

ffords Manufacturers—

Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow 14

ides—

Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

ygen, Cylinder Valves for—

Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow 6

int Manufacturers—

Hoyle, Robson, Barnett & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne...
Parker & Lester, London, S.E. (Antimony Paint) ... C
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Robinson, E., & Co., Ltd., City Works, Sheffield ...
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. 2
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 38

per Bag Makers (Home and Export)—

Higham Bros., Cone Works, Farnworth, near Bolton, Lancs.... ... ...

per Bags—

Smith, Stone & Knight, Ltd., Union Paper Mills, Birmingham ... ...

Paper Makers— PAGE

Smith & McLaurin, Messrs., Ltd., Milliken Park, Scotland (Coated and Gummed Papers) ... ...
Tullis, R., & Co., Markinch, Fife 28

Paper Makers and Stationers (Wholesale and Export)—

Annandale, John, & Sons, Ltd., Shotley Grove, Durham 57
Dickinson, J., & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. C
Ford, T. B., Loudwater, High Wycombe (Blottings)
Hodgkinson, W. S., & Co., Wells, Somerset 28
Hollingsworth & Co., Maidstone 34
Olive & Partington, Manchester 7

Paper Makers' Steel and Bronze Tools—

Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... 26

Paper Makers' Tools—

Crookes, Roberts & Co., Sheffield 26

Parquet Flooring—

Geary, Walker & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Patent Fuel Machinery—

Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

Pavement Light Lenses—

Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Birmingham 5

Paving Bricks—

Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Pen Manufacturers—

Gillott, J., & Sons, Birmingham 59

Perfumers—

Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney. E.... 18

Perfumery Materials - PAGE

Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... 18
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A, Southwark Street, London, S.E. 18

Phosphor Bronze—

Billington & Newton, Longport, Staffs. 44

Photographic Process—

Platinotype Co., The, London, W.C. 59

Pianos, Organs, and Small Instruments—

Riley's on Constitution Hill, Birmingham ... ...

Pickles—

Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading 16

Picks—

Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Pins (Toilet)—

Edridge, Merrett & Co., Ltd., Legge Street, Birmingham

Pistons—

Buckley, W., & Co., Millsands, Sheffield 26

Plate and Bar Manufacturers—

Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby 56

Plate Glass Manufacturers—

Robinson, J. B., London, E.C.

Plate Polish—"Silveret"—

The Nubian Manufacturing Co., Lorrimore St., London, S.E. 20

Plumbago—

Anglo-Italian Talc and Plumbago Mines Co., Ltd., 26, Old Hall Street, Liverpool 3

Poles, Telegraph—

Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C... 21

Porcelain Paint—

Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. 2

Portable Buildings—

Humphreys, Ltd., Knightsbridge, London, S.W. ...

Portable Iron and Wood Buildings—

Iles, Robert, Ltd., Walham Green, London, S.W. ... 13

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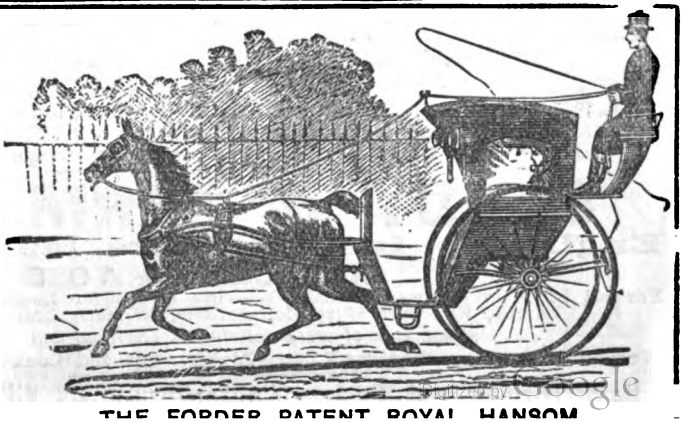

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Portland Cement— PAGE
Peters Bros., 34, Victoria Street, S.W. 32
West Kent Portland Cement Co., Burham, Rochester, Kent 8

Preservative for Stone, &c.—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. 2

Printers, Publishers, and Engravers—
Colliery Guardian Co., Ltd., 49, Essex Street, Strand, W.C. 42
Sheppard & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. 36
Smily & Shaw, London, E.C.

Printing Ink Manufacturers—
Blackwell & Co., London, E.C. ... ...
Coates Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Proprietary Articles, Specialities, &c.—
Baumgartner, J. F., & Co., London, W. ("La Brillantine" Metallic Powder) 61
Dalmas, A. de St., & Co., Leicester (Medical Plaisters) 10
Henry's Calcined Magnesia (T. & W. Henry), Manchester
Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Co., Lincoln (Clarke's Blood Mixture).. 15
Scott & Bowne, Ltd., London E.C. (Scott's Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil)... ... 15

Provision Merchants (Wholesale and Export)—
Griffiths, McAlister & Co., Liverpool ... ...
Gunson, Geo., Sons & Co. Liverpool ... ...
MacSimon's Stores, Ltd., Canning Place, Liverpool..
Nickson, G. & J., & Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Provisions (Importers and Exporters)—
Gunson, Geo., Sons & Co., 3, Atherton Street, Liverpool

Pulley Blocks— PAGE
Godfrey, J. T., Loughborough

Pulleys—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks 6

Pumping Engines—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London C
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. 4

Pumps—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London C
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Quarry Owners—
Freeman, J., Son & Co., London, W. C
Pawson Bros., Ltd., Morley, Yorks 12
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Quilts, Covers, Toiletings, &c.—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester 29

Quiltings and Piques—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester 29

Railway Appliances—
Saxby & Farmer, Ltd., Canterbury Road, London, N.W. (Railway Signals, &c.) 50

Railway Brass Foundry—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Heath Mill Lane, Birmingham ... ...

Railway Lamp Lenses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham 5

Railway Signals—
Saxby & Farmer, Ltd., London, N.W. 50

Rain Water Separator—
Rogers, H. J., Shottermill, Haslemere ... ...

Reducing Valves for Compressed Gases—
Scotch & Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow 6

Refrigerators— PAGE
Haslam Foundry and Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Derby 4
Pulsometer Engineering Co., The, Reading and London C

Retorts—
Stevens, J., & Son, Birmingham 5

Rings and Springs—
Buckley, Wm., & Co., Millsands, Sheffield... 26

Rivet, Bolt, and Nut Manfrs.—
Gadd, Thos., Rowley Regis, Dudley ... ...
Guest, Keen, & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 1
Periam, H. W., Birmingham
Priest, B., & Sons, Oldhills, Staffs 3

Roof Glazing—
Grover & Co., Ltd London, N. 45

Roofing (Patent)—
Grover & Co., Ltd., London, N. 45

Roofing Tile Machinery—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs. ... ...

Roofing Tiles—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

Rope Manufacturers—
Piggott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. 25

Rubber Tyres—
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N. 63

Sacks and Bags—
Judge, T. & W., London, E.C. (Cotton) 43
Knowles, Clarence C., & Co., 19, Brunswick Street, Liverpool, and London, E. ...
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool 34

Saddlery, Harness, &c., Mfrs.—
Rawle & Son, 231 and 232, Blackfriars Road, London, S.E. ... ...

Safe Manufacturers—
Hobbs, Hart, & Co., Ltd., London, N. 6
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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Safety Fuse Manufacturers— PAGE
Nobel's Explosive Co., Ltd., Glasgow 58

Salt—
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool 2

Salvage and Dismantling Contractors—
Adams, John, & Sons, Broad Chare, Newcastle-on-Tyne 13

Sanitary Appliances—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Drain Pipes and Traps, Sanitary Earthenware, W.C. Basins, Urinals, and Washdown Closets, Enamelled Sinks) ... ...

Sanitary Paints—
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...

Sanitary Potters—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

Sauce Manufacturers—
Cocks, Chas., & Co., Ltd., Reading 16

Saw Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield 26

Scrap Iron—
Adams, John, & Sons, Broad Chare, Newcastle-on-Tyne 13

Screw Hooks, Screw Eyes—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 1

Screwing Tackle—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury 46

Screws and Spindles—
Dodd, Joseph, & Co.. Chester Works, Aston, Birmingham

Screws, Washers, Nails, &c.—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd.. Birmingham 1
Periam, H. W., Birmingham 3

Seals—
Pryor, E. & Son, Sheffield ... 13

Seed Merchants—
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ...

Seeds— PAGE
Cooper, Taber & Co., Ltd., London 10

Serge—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford... 29
Hamlyn Bros.. Ltd., Buckfastleigh, Devon ... ...
Spinner & Co., Manchester...

Sewing Machines—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee 19

Shaftings, Pulleys, Plummer Blocks, &c.—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks 6

Sheep Dip (both Arsenical and Nicotine)—
Richards, G. H., 234, Borough High Street. S.E. ... ...

Sheep Deep (Nicotine)—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... 18

Sheep Dip Manufacturers—
Cooper, Wm., & Nephews, Berkhamsted, Makers of the Original Powder Dip...

Sheep Shearing Machines—
Cooper. Wm., & Nephews, 142, Illinois Street, Chicago, and Berkhamsted, England

Sheers—
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton 38

Shipbuilders—
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton 38

Shipping Agents—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., London, E.C. 54

Ship Stores and Chandlery—
MacSymon's Stores, Ltd., Canning Place, Liverpool..

Ships' Berths—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Bordesley, Birmingham... ...

Ships' Lamp Lenses— PAGE
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham 5

Shirtings—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow 14

Shoe Rivets—
Edridge, Merrett & Co., Ltd., Legge Street, Birmingham

Shop Fittings—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246, High Holborn ... ...
Harris & Sheldon, Ltd., Stafford Street, Birmingham...

Shot (Hard and Soft)—
The Abbey Improved Chilled Shot Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne ... ...

Shovels—
Thornton, George, & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Shuttle Block Manufacturers—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool 19

Silk Weaving Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

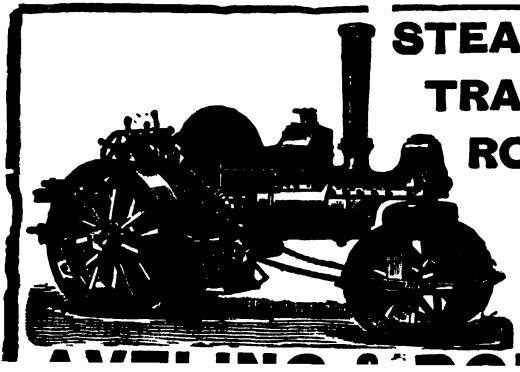
Sinks—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock, N.B.... ... ...

Slate Merchants and Manufrs.—
Davies Bros., Portmadoc, N. Wales ... ...
Williams, Richard, & Co., Portmadoc ... ...

Slipper Manufacturers—
Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge 14

Slipway Machinery—
Day, Summers, & Co., Ltd., Southampton 56

Soap Manufacturers—
Ogston & Tennant, Ltd., Aberdeen 33
Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. 30
Tennant, Charles, & Co., Glasgow ... ...



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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

Soap Manufacturers—*contd.* PAGE
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Hazlehurst Soap Works, Runcorn 62
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester (Hard and Soft Soaps)... ... ...

Soap Powders—
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Soap Stone—
Anglo-Italian Talc and Plumbago Mines Co., Ltd., 26, Old Hall Street, Liverpool 3

Soda—
Brunner, Mond, & Co, Northwich, Cheshire 41
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool 2

Spades—
Thornton, George, & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Sponge Cloths, &c.—
Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester... ... C

Stamp and Punch Makers—
Pryor, Edward, & Son, Sheffield 13

Stationers (Manufacturing and Export)—
Dickinson, John, & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. C

Stay Busk Manufacturers—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... 26

Steam Boilers—
Hartley & Sugden, Halifax... 16

Steam Gauge—
Hodson, Wright & Wood, Halifax ... ...

Steam Pulsating Pumps—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London C

Steam Saw Mills—
Fabbricotti, B., London, S.W. C

Steam Valves— PAGE
Shaw, J., Albert Works, Huddersfield 63

Steel Castings, Steel and Iron Forgings, &c.—
Baird, W., & Co., Glasgow ... C
Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby 56
Fairley, J., & Sons, Birmingham 21
Lanarkshire Steel Co., The, Motherwell, N.B. 24
Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow 23

Steel and Iron Shafting, &c.—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee 19
Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow 23

Steel Manufacturers—
Brown, Bayley's Steel Works, Ltd., Sheffield ... ...
Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby 56
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield 26
Fairley, J., & Sons, Birmingham 21
Lanarkshire Steel Co., The, Motherwell, N.B. 24
Parkgate Iron and Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham 23
Power, F. A., & Sons, Saltley, Birmingham ... ...
Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow 23

Steel Pen Makers—
Gillott, J., & Sons, London and Birmingham... 59

Steel Ropes—
Cradock, G., & Co., Wakefield

Steel Tubes—
Russell, J., & Sons, Ltd., Wednesbury 46

Stencil Plates—
Pryor, E., & Son, Sheffield ... 13

Stone Breakers—
Baxter, W. H., Ltd., Leeds... 31

Stone Merchants—
Pawson Bros., Ltd., Morley, Yorks 13

Stone, Solution for Preservation of—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. 2

Stoves—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich 16

Strong Rooms— PAGE
Hobbs, Hart & Co., Ltd. London, N.... 6

Sugar Refiners—
Tate, Henry, & Sons, Ltd. London and Liverpool ... 3

Sulphate of Copper—
United Alkali Co., Ltd. Liverpool 2

Sulphate of Soda Manufacturers—
Blythe, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs. 25
United Alkali Co., Ltd. Liverpool 2

Sulphuric Acid Manufacturers—
Blythe, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs. 25
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd. Leith 56
United Alkali Co., Ltd. Liverpool 2

Sulphuric Acid Manufacturers' Retorts—
Stevens, J., & Sons, Birmingham 5

Surgical India Rubber Mfrs.—
Harburg and Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C. . 34

Surgical Instrument Mfctr.—
Harris, Joseph, Altrincham (Rubber Goods) 3

Syphons and Seltzogenes—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. 6

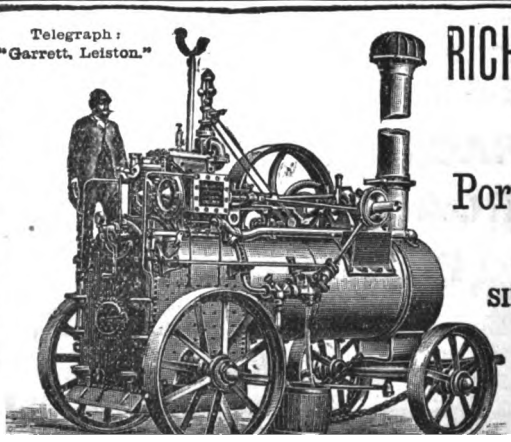
Tailors' Trimming Warehousemen—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E.... 14

Tallow—
Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool 1

Tanks—
Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham C

Tar and Rosin Distillers—
Brotherton & Co., Leeds ...
Robinson, E., & Co., Ltd., City Works, Sheffield ...

Tarpaulin Manufacturers—
Piggott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. 3



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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Tea Merchants—
Tower Tea Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Teak Timber—
Denny, Mott & Dickson, Ltd., 165, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C. 13

Telegraph Engineers—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C... 21
Henley's, W. T., Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. C
Hooper's Telegraph and India-rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.C. 56
Telegraph Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Helsby, Warrington ... ...

Telephones—
Telegraph Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Helsby, Warrington ... ...

Tents, Marquees and Camp Furniture—
Piggott Bros. & Co., London, E.C. 28

Textile Engineers & Machinists—
Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Textile Machinery Manufrs.—
Hall, Robert, & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Textile Manufacturers—
Hamlyn Bros., Buckfastleigh, Devon ... ...
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E ... 14
Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale 29
Spinner, E., & Co., Manchester

Tiles, Tessellated and Glazed—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley ... ...

Timber Merchants—
Denny, Mott & Dickson, Ltd., 165, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C... ... 13
Gradwell, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness, Lancs.

PAGE

Timber Merchants and Importers—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Liverpool 19
Gradwell, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness, Lancs.

Tin Boxes and Canisters—
Tinplate Decorating Co., Ltd., The, Neath 34

Tobacco Flavour Manufacturers—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E. ... 18
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...

Tool Manufacturers—
Luke & Spencer, Ltd., Broadheath, Manchester 2
Thornton, George, & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Towels—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester 29

Traction Engines—
Aveling & Porter, Ltd., Rochester 51

Tube Mill Machinery—
Jones, George, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

Tubes and Fittings—
Dugard Bros., Birmingham.. 15
Russell, J., & Sons, Ltd., Wednesbury 46
Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Birmingham 24

Tweeds—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E.... 14
Platt, Jas., & Co., 77, St. Martin's Lane, W.C.... ...

Twines—
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool 34

Typewriter—
Yost Typewriter Co., Ltd., The, London, E.C. ... ...

PAGE

Tyre Manufacturers—
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N.... 62

Valves for Compressed Gases—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow 6

Varnish Manufacturers—
Blackwell & Co., Dyer's Buildings, E.C.... ... ...
Flack, Henry, London, S.E... 62
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E. ... ...
Palmer, W. H., & Co., 82, Old Street, E.C. 38
Parker & Lester, London, S.E. (Parker's Imperial Black)... C
Robinson, E., & Co., Ltd., City Works, Sheffield ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 38

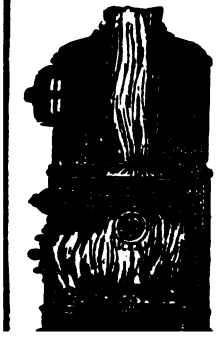
Vegetable Colours—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E ... 18
Confectioners' Vegetable Colour and Fruit Essences Co., Ltd., The, London, N.E. 15
London Essence Co., Camberwell, S.E. ... ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95a, Southwark Street, London, S.E. 18

Ventilators—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Bolton ... 13

Vinegar Makers—
Grimble & Co., Ltd., Cumberland Market, N.W. 63
Hills & Underwood, London, E.C. 33

Wagon Cover Manufacturers—
Piggott Bros. & Co., London, E.C. 28

MARRIOTT & GRAHAM,



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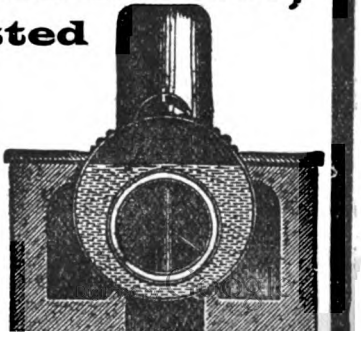

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

PAGE

Waiter and Tray Manufacturers—
Frank Hawker Carpathian Silver Co., Ltd., 52, Spencer-street, Birmingham ... ...

Washers—
Periam, Herbert W., Ltd., Floodgate-street Works, Birmingham 3

Watch and Clock Manufacturers—
Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 & 34, Cockspur-street, London 59

Water Meters, Sluice Valves, Steam Valves and Fire Appliances—
Simpson, J., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. 4

Waterproof Manufacturers—
Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C... 17
Piggott Bros. & Co., London, E.C. 28

Waterproof Paint Manufacturers—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. 2

Water Softeners—
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading C

Water Taps—
Palatine Engineering Co., Ltd., Liverpool 39

Weaving Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd., Bury ... ...

Weldless Steel Tubing—
Accles & Pollock, Churchbridge, Oldbury 3

Wheels—
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N.... 62

Whip and Walking Stick Makers—
Narborough, F., 42 & 44, Lombard-street, Birmingham ... ...

White Lead Manufacturers—
Mersey White Lead Co., Ltd., Warrington ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. 38

Wine and Spirit Merchants— PAGE
Chaplin, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, W.C. 61
Crawford, Daniel, & Son, Ltd., Glasgow 22
Dailuaine-Talisker Distilleries, Ltd., Head Offices, 50, Wellington-street, Glasgow (Whisky from solely pure Malt) 22
Distillers Co., Ltd. (The Edinburgh "D.C.L." Whisky and Gin) 22
Hills & Underwood, London, E.C. 33
Morgan & Co., Hamburg ... 17

Wire Manufacturers—
Cradock, G., & Co., Wakefield 63
Dugard Bros., Birmingham (Brass and Copper) 15
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham (Wire Nails, Rods, Bars, Hoops, &c.) 1
Power, F. A., & Son, Saltley, Birmingham ... ...
Shipman, J., & Co., Attercliffe, Sheffield ... ...

Wire Rope Manufacturers—
Cradock, G., & Co., Wakefield 63
Lewis, Joseph, 5 & 6, Great Winchester-street, London, E.C. 60

Wireworkers and Weavers—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich 16
Power, F. A., & Son, Saltley, Birmingham ... ...

Wood Block Flooring—
Geary, Walker & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Wood Stains—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E. 62
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E. ... ...

Wolsey Unshrinkable Wool-Underwear— PAGE
Walker, R., & Sons, Rutland Street, Leicester 1

Wool Importers—
Hall, John, & Sons, Liverpool ... ...

Wool, Tops, Noils, Wastes, &c.—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford... 1

Woollen, Cotton, and Linen Cloths for Machinery—
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury 1

Woollen Machinery Manufacturers—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd. Bury (Power Looms and all kinds of Weaving Machinery) ... ...

Woollen Warehousemen and Manufacturers—
Grainger & Smith, Dudley...
Hamlyn Bros., Ltd., Buckfastleigh, Devon ... ...
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E. ... 1
Kelsall & Kemp, Ltd., Rochdale 1
Platt, James, & Co., Woollen Merchants and General Warehousemen, London, W.C. ... ...
Spinner, E., & Co., Manchester

Worsted and Woollen Yarns—
Ambler, Thos., & Sons, Atlas Mills, Bradford 1

Worsted Suiting Manufacturers—
Dickinson, Herbert, 14, Northumberland Street, Huddersfield ... ...

Yacht Builders—
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd. Southampton 1

Yarn Machinery—
Hall, R., & Sons, Bury, Ltd. Bury ... ...

Zephyr Cloth Manufacturers—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow ... ...

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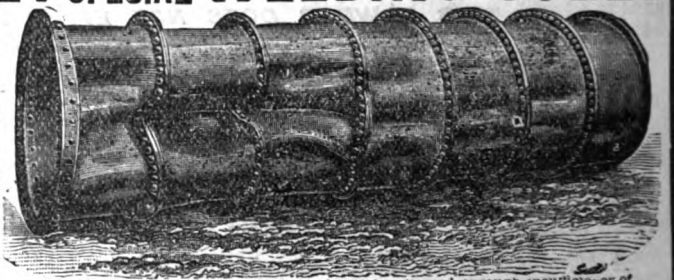

Photograph of Flue made from this Steel, which collapsed, through insufficiency of Water, without explosion.

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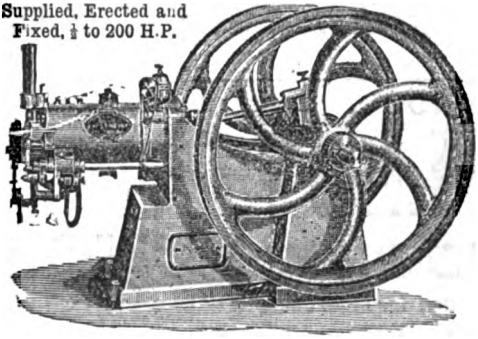

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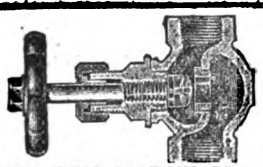

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Messrs. Curtis and Harvey announce that experiments have recently been made at several South African mines with their new explosive, and these, they report, were eminently satisfactory.

Messrs. Joseph Kaye & Sons, Limited, Lock Works, Leeds, have issued price lists of seamless oil cans and other well-known specialities.

Messrs. The London Emery Works Company, Park, Tottenham, London, N., announce that the growth of their business has compelled them to remove to larger and more commodious premises, which they have had specially built at the above address.

Messrs. F. Reddaway & Co., Limited, Pendleton, Manchester, announce that they have purchased the business of the Lancashire Patent Belting and Hose Company, Limited, lately carried on at New Bridge-street, Strangeways, Manchester, together with the goodwill, stock-in-trade, trade-marks, &c.

Messrs. Straker & Squire, 9, Bush-lane, E.C., have issued a photograph of their petrol omnibus, and a pamphlet describing the same in detail. They are supplying omnibuses of the type illustrated to the Great Western Railway Company, and London General Omnibus Company, the London Road Car Company, and Messrs. Tillings.

Messrs. Royce, Limited, of Hulme, Manchester, have recently issued a third edition of their catalogue of electric cranes. This shows a large variety of "Goliath" yard cranes, overhead travellers, and other electrically-driven hoisting devices, of which Messrs. Royce have made a speciality. They build the cranes complete, including the electrical machinery and fittings.

Messrs. Accles & Pollock, Oldbury, makers of Weldless Steel Tubes and Best Butted Tubes, announce that they have been accepted by the Indian Office and General Post Office officials in bicycles made locally. Further, they are open to arrange special terms for Colonial Buyers.

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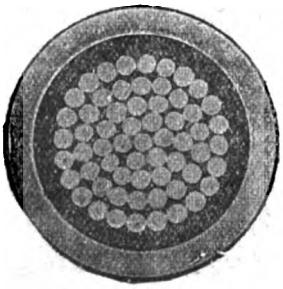

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